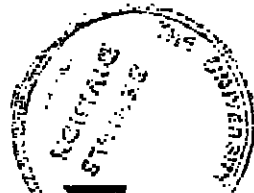


Baker to announce peace talks

WASHINGTON (AP) — With Israel and the Arabs unable to agree, Secretary of State James Baker is about to announce a site for the next round of Middle East peace talks, U.S. officials said Wednesday. Speculation has centered on Washington. An announcement is expected while Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is in Washington to meet with Mr. Baker Thursday and President George Bush on Friday. Mr. Shamir also will make a luncheon speech Thursday to a Jewish group in Baltimore. The peace talks opened Oct. 30 in Madrid with a ceremonial phase that led Nov. 2 to preliminary face-to-face bargaining. While the opening sessions went smoothly, Israel and the Arabs disagreed on where to continue the negotiations. Israel preferred shifting to the Middle East, thereby extending some symbolic recognition to the Jewish state. Syria, however, wanted to remain in Madrid, or at least in Europe, giving the peace conference an international flavor with a greater prospect for outside intervention in its talks with Israel. Mr. Baker gave the parties two weeks to resolve the dispute, and now is about to intervene, according to U.S. officials who discussed Mr. Baker's plans on condition of anonymity.



Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. الراي

Egypt asks EC to play key role

STRASBOURG (AP) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Wednesday urged the European Community (EC) to take a leading role in efforts to resolve the problems of the Middle East. "We call upon you to remain continuously involved in addressing the problems of our region and helping in their solution," Mr. Mubarak said in a speech to the European Parliament, the advisory, 518-member EC assembly. He listed the Middle East peace process, arms control and development aid as areas where Europe could play a major role. Mr. Mubarak also proposed that European and Middle Eastern nations set up a permanent forum to discuss problems facing the two regions. "It could be a focal point for dialogue and interaction between officials and non-officials, professionals and intellectuals, between different strata of our societies," Mr. Mubarak said without elaborating. Many European nations back the creation of an institution grouping Mediterranean nations to encourage cooperation and defuse crises. Mr. Mubarak ending a three-day trip to Europe, expressed guarded hope for the Middle East peace talks that began last month in Madrid. "We are on the right track," he said. "However, we have a long road to go and must remain mutually engaged."

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Assad accepts new nomination

DAMASCUS (R) — President Hafez Al Assad Wednesday accepted nomination for a fourth term as president starting next March, officials said. The 250-member parliament, which unanimously nominated Mr. Assad, has set Dec. 2 as a date for a referendum in which voters will be asked to say yes or no to the nomination. Mr. Assad, 61, took power in a bloodless coup on Nov. 16, 1970. He became president, an office with a seven-year term, the following year.

Arafat holds talks with Qadhafi

NICOSIA (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, who opposes Arab peace talks with Israel, held talks with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, the Libyan news agency (JANA) said Wednesday. It said Mr. Arafat, who is touring Arab capitals to coordinate a unified stance before the next round of Middle East peace talks, arrived in Tripoli Tuesday. JANA gave no details on what was discussed during the meeting.

Egypt denies guerrillas crossed into Israel

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian Interior Minister Abdul Halim Musa has denied that four heavily-armed guerrillas killed by an Israeli patrol on Nov. 11 crossed into Israel from Egypt, a government official said Wednesday. The official confirmed a report in the opposition newspaper Al Wafd quoting Mr. Musa as making the denial to the newspaper's correspondent after attending a police graduation ceremony. It was the first official Egyptian comment of any kind on the incident.

'Arens made secret visit to China

WASHINGTON (AP) — Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens secretly visited China this month to discuss military and political issues, the Washington Post reported Wednesday. Citing unidentified sources, the Post said Mr. Arens and a delegation of aides met with senior Chinese officials to discuss Israel's continuing military cooperation with China and concern about arms sales to the Arab world. The paper said the four-day visit took place just after the Middle East peace conference in Madrid. The Post quoted a senior Israeli official as saying: "There is a very positive trend in the relationship. It wouldn't surprise us if China were to take steps towards at least some kind of diplomatic relations with us sometimes in the not-too-distant future." China and Israel have never had diplomatic relations. The Post said a senior Chinese official visited Israel at the same time Mr. Arens was in Beijing.

Fundamentalists may try to block Algerian poll

ALGIERS (R) — A Muslim fundamentalist leader said Wednesday his party, whose supporters derailed plans to hold Algeria's first multi-party general election in June, would probably boycott the poll when it is held in December. Abdul Kader Hachani, interim leader of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), added that if the political climate remained unchanged his executive committee would also recommend using all legal means to thwart the election. His comments were the first by a leader of Algeria's biggest opposition party since an Algiers court Tuesday rejected pleas to allow its detained leaders to stand as candidates.

Former l'Oreal chairman charged in Arab boycott case

PARIS (R) — The former chairman of the French cosmetics giant l'Oreal, Francois Dalle, has been charged with racial discrimination and forging documents to avoid an Arab League boycott of firms trading with Israel. In a statement on Wednesday, Mr. Dalle confirmed a magistrate had agreed to his request to be indicted so his lawyer could have access to the file against him.

Palestinian team to visit Moscow for talks on peace process, Jewish emigration

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A Palestinian delegation will visit Moscow Friday for talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and other senior Soviet leaders on the Middle East peace process and Jewish emigration, Palestinian leaders said Wednesday. Faisal Husseini, overall head of the Palestinian team to the Middle East peace conference which opened in Madrid on Oct. 30, and Haidar Abdul Shafi, who headed the actual delegates, are expected to impress upon the Soviet government the dangers posed to the Palestinian cause by an Israeli-only condition attached to Soviet Jewish emigration.

"We will raise the principle of the Helsinki agreement and urge the Soviet Union to abide by it," said one Palestinian official noting that Moscow, as one of the signatories to the Helsinki accords on human rights, is obliged to offer emigrants the freedom to choose their destination.

Under the present system in place, Soviet Jews are given exit permits only for Israel as their destination although, in principle, they carry passports which could help them to return to the Soviet Union if they desired so at a later stage.

Notwithstanding the passports, the Israeli-only condition effectively forces all Soviet Jewish emigrants to head for Israel regardless of their preference for other destinations.

Until 1989, when the Soviet Union, under the presidency of Mikhail Gorbachev, relaxed exit procedures and Israel stepped up its efforts to net as many Soviet Jewish emigrants as possible, less than 10 per cent of all Soviet Jewish emigrants opted to go to Israel, according to senior Soviet officials.

The visit of the Palestinian delegation to Moscow was arranged previously with Boris Pankin, who was replaced as foreign minister by Mr. Shevardnadze on Tuesday. The change prompted a two-day delay in the delegation's visit, Palestinian officials told the Jordan Times.

Another issue expected to be discussed by the delegation is the issue of multilateral talks on the Middle East. It was earlier expected Moscow would host the talks, which would bring together all the Arab parties directly involved in the peace process as well as the European Community, the Gulf Arab states, Japan, Canada and several other countries in addition to the U.S., which spearheaded the efforts which led to the Madrid conference.

The U.S. and the Soviet Union co-sponsored the Madrid conference and it is expected that the next round of Arab-Israeli bilateral talks will be held in an American city, most probably Williamsburg, Virginia.

(One informed source said Wednesday that the U.S. appeared to be also entertaining plans for Rhodes, Greece, as a possible venue for the bilateral talks. No definite confirmation was immediately available.)

The Palestinians are believed

Syria indicates peace talks in peril if U.S. attacks Libya

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syria indicated Wednesday that U.S. military action against Libya over its alleged involvement in the bombing of a Pan Am jetliner could undermine Arab-Israeli peace talks.

The official Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) said Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa "cautioned Washington over the seriousness of such acts at a time when efforts are being made to achieve peace and stability in the region."

Mr. Sharaa's comments were made after he met with Libyan Ambassador Hamed Jalloud, who voiced Tripoli's concern that the Americans plan to use military action against Libya if it does not surrender two Libyan intelligence agents U.S. judicial authorities allege were involved in the bombing.

SANA said Mr. Sharaa "expressed deep concern over any military action against Libya and expressed opposition to such an action."

Libya has denied complicity in

the bombing of the New York-bound Pan Am Boeing 747 which blew up over Lockerbie, Scotland, Dec. 21, 1988, killing all 259 people aboard and 11 on the ground.

Mr. Sharaa did not directly threaten a Syrian withdrawal from the peace talks, which began in Madrid Oct. 30, if Libya was hit.

But his linkage of a possible U.S. attack on Libya clearly was aimed at cautioning the Americans that military action could effect the peace process at a critical time when Washington is striving to arrange bilateral negotiations between Israel and the Arabs.

Syria is a key player in the peace talks and its pullout from the negotiations would mean the collapse of the most serious effort to end the 43-year-old Arab-Israeli conflict.

U.S. and Scottish authorities last week named Libyans Abdul Basset Ali Al Megrahi and Lamien Khalifa Fhimah as plotting the bombing and demanded their

extradition. The United States, Britain and France have said they are considering economic sanctions against Libya if it does not hand over the suspects.

France has issued arrest warrants for four Libyans for the bombing of a UTA airliner in Niger Sept. 19, 1989, in which all 170 people aboard the plane were killed.

Washington has not ruled out military action against Libya. U.S. warplanes bombed Tripoli and Benghazi, Libya's two main cities, April 15, 1986, in retaliation for alleged Libyan involvement in bombing a Berlin bar.

Mr. Sharaa supported Libya's proposal that the Pan Am bombing case be submitted to international arbitration, such as the World Court in the Hague.

SANA quoted Mr. Sharaa as saying it was essential the case be handled by "legal and judicial arbitration so that justice will be maintained and those proved

(Continued on page 5)

Political pluralism is strengthening the Palestinian stand, Erekat says

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The pre-negotiating position of the Palestinian delegation is being strengthened by moves to forge a united political front based on pluralism in the occupied territories, according to one of the Palestinians negotiators.

The political infrastructure in the West Bank and Gaza is so strong that the people were able to draw a linkage between the negotiators' aim of liberating the occupied territories and working towards an independent state with the intifada's aim at liberation and independence, said political science professor Dr. Saeb Erekat. "They realized that the two go hand in hand," he said.

"There are charters of honor being drawn up with opposition parties to give democracy its real essence," Dr. Erekat explained. "We don't want to use democracy whenever it suits our purpose, we are trying to forge a democracy based on freedom and tolerance."

The charters of honor are not assurances to the opposition parties but are guarantees that pluralism will be protected by the negotiators and opposition parties alike. "We want to maintain a comprehensive internal front. We want to preserve the no and the yes and find models of expressions. We want to strengthen the institutions that we de-



Saeb Erekat

veloped and we want to make sure that our internal front is united and closer than ever before because that is what counts in the end," Dr. Erekat said.

The 14 Palestinian delegates to peace talks with Israel and their seven-member guidance committee are being held accountable by all Palestinians around the world, thus weakening some criticism over the delegation's composition from Palestinians in the diaspora.

The criticism stemmed from the fact that all delegates are residents of the occupied territories. Dr. Erekat said that Palestinians across the world are turning to the delegation with demands that make the delegates directly accountable even to the

Palestinians outside the territories.

"The Palestinians in Amman, the U.S. Canada, Asia and Europe all are telling us that we are accountable to them. So the issue of just representing people in the occupied territories is actually not true because all Palestinians everywhere are holding us accountable. We are the Palestinian delegation, not just the 'West Bank and Gaza delegation,'" Dr. Erekat said.

The Israeli press has spread rumors that there will be several changes in the Palestinian delegation, but Dr. Erekat said nothing had been decided yet. "Changes in the Palestinian delegation may occur but that is still open. It may be enlarged. There maybe new experts. There maybe people who will not want to continue... it's still an open question."

Even if changes occur the delegation political makeup is likely to remain representative of a spectrum of political affiliations, Palestinian delegates here said.

The people in the West Bank and Gaza were briefed extensively by the delegates on their return to the territories, according to Dr. Erekat, they said: "If you stick to our goals, independence, freedom, liberty and national honor, we are with you. If you change we will turn against you," he said.

Opponents of the peace talks such as members of the Popular

(Continued on page 5)

Masri formally resigns and Sharif Zeid takes over today

AMMAN (J.T) — Prime Minister Taher Masri's government will formally hand in its resignation this morning and a new cabinet headed by Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker will be sworn in in the afternoon, informed sources said.

Mr. Masri was expected to formally resign Wednesday and the sources said the process was delayed until today for technical reasons.

The names of the Sharif Zeid cabinet remained shrouded in secrecy Wednesday. The sources said the incoming prime minister had already finalized over half of his cabinet and was continuing consultations before drawing up a full list of ministers.

Sharif Zeid, a former commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, served as chief of the Royal Court until his appointment as prime minister.

Sharif Zeid served as an interim prime minister for eight months in 1989.



Taher Masri



Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker

Overwhelming majority of U.S. Jewish leaders endorse territory for peace

WASHINGTON (R) — An overwhelming majority of American Jewish leaders whom Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir will address Thursday favors Israel freezing settlements in occupied territories and trading land for peace, according to a survey released Wednesday.

It found that 88 per cent thought Israel should offer Arabs "territorial compromise" in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in return for credible guarantees for peace. Only seven per cent disagreed and five per cent were not sure.

When offered the proposition that Mr. Shamir was right to insist that Israel would never give up an inch of the occupied territories, 12 per cent agreed but 85 per cent disagreed and five per cent were unsure.

Sociologist Seymour Martin Lipset, who designed and con-

ducted the poll, told a Washington news conference the results challenged the stereotype of an American Jewish leadership that always supported Israel.

"We think it is important that the government of Israel and the prime minister of Israel know where the American Jewish leadership stands," said David Gordis, head of the Wilstein Institute, a Los Angeles-based think-tank on American Jewish affairs that sponsored the poll.

It surveyed 205 leaders of the Council of Jewish Federations, whose annual assembly Mr. Shamir is about to address.

"This is a surprisingly dovish population, a population which overwhelmingly supports trading land for peace," Mr. Lipset said. "They overwhelmingly support what the American administration has been doing."

Mr. Shamir heads the most

right-wing government in Israel's history. It had pledged for "nationalistic, religious and security" reasons never to give up an inch of the territories Israel has occupied since the 1967 Middle East war.

All those surveyed were either Council of Jewish Federation (CJF) board members or presidents of local affiliates. Only 18 of those contacted refused to take part in the survey and the remaining 126 CJF board members were unreachable.

Mr. Shamir addresses the CJF assembly in Baltimore on Thursday, a day before he meets President George Bush at the White House for an important discussion of how to resume Middle East negotiations and follow up on the initial Madrid conference.

The CJF is important because it is the umbrella group for U.S. Jewish fund-raising which pro-

vides Israel hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Almost half of those surveyed personally donate \$25,000 or more to Israel per year.

One of the most striking poll findings, Mr. Lipset said, was that 75 per cent agreed with the proposition that the United States should continue to press both Arabs and Israel to adopt more flexible positions in the peace negotiations.

Eighty-three per cent said they were grateful to the Bush administration for its efforts to arrange a Middle East peace conference and 52 per cent said they thought its policies had been helpful to Israel.

The poll comes two months after a major row between American Jewry and Mr. Bush over his decision to delay action on Israel's request for \$10 billion in loan guarantees to build housing

Israel hopes for 20% population rise by 2000

BOSTON (R) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has expressed hope that Israel's population could increase by nearly 20 per cent this decade as a means of ensuring the Jewish state's "security."

Mr. Shamir, visiting Boston during an 11-day U.S. trip that will include a meeting with President George Bush Friday, told a group of major local investors in Israel bonds that peace and security went hand in hand with a larger population.

"We are now four million and maybe 100,000 (in population) ... it's not much," Mr. Shamir said. "We need much more and we hope by the end of this century, with God's help, we will reach four million ... and nobody will have dreams about the disappearance of our people in this part of the world and they will accept our existence and our independence."

Mr. Shamir said immigration was vital to achieve the population goal. "We know that without such an immigration ... we will not have peace and if we will have peace it will be useless," he said.

The session with Israel bond holders was one of several meetings Mr. Shamir was holding with U.S. Jewish groups and business communities stressing Israel's need for financial support to settle the hundreds of thousands of immigrants it is soliciting from the Soviet Union and other Eastern bloc nations.

In Newton, Massachusetts, Mr. Shamir said later Tuesday that all the 400,000 immigrants to Israel in the past two years had been housed but finding them jobs was a major problem.

"Our main problem is how to provide employment for such a large new population which is well educated, trained and skilled," Mr. Shamir said. "We shall be able to do it only by expanding our whole economy."

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Israelis, allies kill child, wound 5 in S. Lebanon

TYRE, Lebanon (AP) — A girl was killed and five other people were wounded Wednesday when a patrol blew up their houses, U.N. officials said.

The radio station of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) said SLA militiamen carried out the attack and claimed the houses belonged to Hizbollah guerrillas.

U.N. officials said they could not determine whether the patrol was SLA or Israeli. Timur Goksel, spokesman for the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), said the patrol entered the U.N.-policed village of Majdal Selim at 2:30 a.m. (2430 GMT).

It arrested Mahmoud Yaseen, his brother, their wives and their six children, to take them to the Israeli-controlled "security zone" farther south, Mr. Goksel said.

But the women and children were later released and allowed to return to their homes.

"As they approached their houses, which are next to each other, they blew up, killing a 10-year-old girl and wounding the

other five," Mr. Goksel said.

U.N. sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, clarified that the five wounded were the two wives and three of the younger children.

Two older boys were taken into the "security zone" together with their fathers, the sources added. They also quoted a U.N. doctor who examined the girl's body as saying that he counted "30 rifle bullet holes" on the body, an indication the girl had been shot.

The U.N. sources and Mr. Goksel could not be contacted subsequently to clarify the discrepancy as to the girl's cause of death.

State Minister without Portfolio Nabih Berri, who heads the Shiite Amal militia, called for a general strike in South Lebanon Thursday to protest what he called "the massacre."

Voice of the South said the blown-up houses belonged to guerrillas of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah.

More hostage releases predicted to come soon

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Pro-Iranian groups said Wednesday Lebanese kidnappers had dropped a key condition for releasing Western hostages, adding weight to forecasts that others will go free close on the heels of Terry Waite and Thomas Sutherland.

Three sources with influence over or close to the kidnappers said the seven-year saga would draw to a close by the end of the year — and possibly within days.

At least five hostages, three Americans and two Germans, remain in captivity after Islamic Jihad freed Mr. Waite, a British Church of England envoy, and Mr. Sutherland, an American academic, on Monday.

They include American journalist Terry Anderson, who has spent more time as a hostage than any other Westerner.

Sheikh Abbas Musawi, secretary-general of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah movement, announced Wednesday there was no linkage between freeing the Westerners and Israel releasing

some 300 Arab, mostly Lebanese, prisoners. "We should distinguish between the issue of the captives and detainees in Israel and the hostages... the prisoner issue is completely separate from the hostage crisis," he said.

The kidnap groups, which work under the umbrella of Hizbollah, had previously insisted on a link.

Predictions that the last few hostages would soon be free came thick and fast on Wednesday, supporting assurances Mr. Waite said he had from Hizbollah shortly before his ordeal ended.

Mr. Musawi said the crisis would be over within days or weeks.

The Tehran Times, which accurately predicted Mr. Waite's release, said one or more hostages would be freed within two weeks and the rest by the end of the year.

Mr. Waite has resumed his campaign to free the remaining captives in Lebanon.

Iraq complains its funds are shackled by U.N.

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq complained to a U.N. envoy Wednesday that it was unable to buy urgently needed food and drugs because its coffers were padlocked by sanctions.

Cabinet ministers told Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan that billions of dollars of assets were frozen by U.N. sanctions, imposed after the invasion of Kuwait in August last year, and that young and old were dying needlessly, officials said.

But Prince Sadruddin, representative of U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, said he was optimistic that he would succeed in extending humanitarian aid arrangements, due to expire at the end of the year.

"I am optimistic after my first meeting," he said after two hours of talks with Foreign Minister Ahmad Hussein Khaydar "about a memorandum of understanding" allowing U.N. agencies such as UNICEF to operate in Iraq.

"Obviously I don't want to leave Baghdad empty-handed. I am aware that these talks are

being held at a very important time (for Iraq)," he told reporters.

The government has told Iraq's 18 million people, already facing rampant inflation because of shortages, that they must tighten their belts further as winter sets in.

Some officials say Iraq has only three months' supply of grain. Prince Sadruddin later held talks with Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz.

The government made public a \$1.4 billion shopping list of drugs and medical equipment it said it had ordered but could not buy because \$4 billion of its assets were frozen by hostile governments.

It was made available to journalists and given to Prince Sadruddin's delegation together with a \$2 billion list of basic items ranging from rice to detergents which Baghdad says it also ordered but could not pay for.

Iraq rejects U.N. resolution 706 which would allow it to sell limited amounts of oil to buy essential drugs and food under strict U.N. monitoring.

Report: Israeli network behind AUB bombing; member arrested

BEIRUT (AP) — Authorities have traced the bombing of the American University of Beirut to an Israeli-sponsored underground network after interrogating a suspect who turned himself in, the newspaper Al Safir reported Wednesday.

The unattributed report did not identify the man by name, but said his sister, a former AUB student, had driven the bomb-laden car to the university campus on Nov. 7 and that he and an accomplice detonated the explosives.

A man was killed and eight were wounded in the pre-dawn explosion which demolished the administration building and the library and toppled the clock tower.

The suspect turned himself in after his sister was killed by his alleged accomplice in a feud over money a few days after the explosion, Al Safir said. A police hunt is under way for the accomplice, identified only as Pierre, a Christian.

According to the newspaper, Pierre worked for Hussein Abdul Nabi, an official of the South Lebanon Army (SLA), a militia group that is financed, trained and armed by Israel.

Abdul Nabi lives in Israel's self-designated "security zone" in South Lebanon and has for years topped the government's wanted list in connection with various offences, including sabotage, assassinations and robberies.

Al Safir said police interrogators have established that Abdul Nabi, who heads "the Israeli-sponsored spy and terrorism network," was the mastermind of the AUB bombing.

Police officials refused to comment on the report in the newspaper which has good ties to the security apparatus.

Pierre bought the car used in

the AUB bombing in September, the report said. He rigged it at his home in Jounieh, 20 kilometres north of Beirut.

The paper said that Pierre had been told by Abdul Nabi that Israel would finance the operation and passed on the information to the woman driver and her brother.

It said after parking the car in front of college hall, AUB's administration building, the woman ran away on foot. A few minutes later Pierre and her brother each pressed a detonator that set the explosives off.

Pierre had promised the woman and her brother \$500,000 for the job. A few days after the blast, Al Safir said, Pierre met the woman and her brother as well as other members of the network at an unnamed Beirut hotel.

When pressed for a first payment, Pierre drew a pistol equipped with a silencer and killed the woman.

Al Safir said the woman's body was smuggled out of the hotel and dumped into the sea.

After the murder, Pierre asked the woman's brother to turn himself in to the police and to tell them that he had shot her over a moral issue to defend the family honour. Pierre promised he would get the brother released on bail.

But under interrogation, the brother broke down and made the confessions.

Police on Tuesday reported that a man identified as Jihad Khalil, 28, a Shiite, had turned himself in claiming he had killed his sister Hayat, 24, "to avenge family honour."

The police did not say when exactly Khalil surrendered and it could not be determined if Khalil was the man Al Safir was referring to.

Millions of dollars in Afghan donations missing — audit

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Millions of dollars in donations are unaccounted for due to gross mismanagement of the United Nations' Afghan relief operation, according to a confidential U.N. audit.

The audit — a copy of which was obtained Tuesday by the Associated Press — said that "there was no U.N. staff in the field who was well versed in the U.N. financial and administrative policies."

U.N. spokeswoman Nadia Younes refused comment on the report, which she said was part of an audit process that would not be completed for about two weeks.

The audit was prepared at U.N. headquarters by the office of under-secretary-general Richard Foran, who is responsible for administration and management.

Operation Salama, the U.N.'s Afghan relief effort, failed to reconcile its records with the U.N. office in Geneva in charge of overall relief operations, the report said.

This led to a French donation of almost \$2.5 million being listed as not received by the field offices, even though records in Geneva showed that it had been paid to Operation Salama.

Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, now the top U.N. official in charge of Gulf relief efforts, was in charge of Operation Salama at the time of the reported mismanagement from 1988-90. He holds Iranian, Swiss and French passports.

He is one of the candidates for U.N. secretary-general, but attracted little support in the most recent non-binding straw ballot held by the Security Council a week ago.

Four countries voted for him, eight against, and three abstained. However, none of the five permanent council members with veto power cast a "no" vote.

Diplomats have spoken privately of having reservations about his management ability.

The report does not name any individuals as being culpable for the mismanagement of Operation Salama.

In the confidential report on Operation Salama, the auditors noted that some projects were artificially created to absorb personnel expenditures and that procurement contracts were signed without competitive bidding.

It also found that questionable expenditures went undetected due to a lack of control over the operations of field offices in Islamabad, Pakistan, and Kabul, Afghanistan.

The report said there was also a lack of control over funds derived from cash sales of food and domestic items from in-kind contributions. It said \$2.1 million in proceeds from such sales were unaccounted for.

In 1990, the report said that the U.N. Development Programme's Kabul office converted U.S. dollars paid by Operation Salama through black market sources at rates ranging from 500 to 750 Afghanis to one U.S. dollar.

However, it said payments made by the office locally were charged back to Operation Salama at the U.N.'s official exchange rate of 55 Afghanis to one U.S. dollar.

The audit is to be evaluated in a final report by the U.N. Department of Administration and Management.

Book includes unpublished Dead Sea scroll material

NEW YORK (AP) — Three American experts announced publication of previously unpublished portions of the Dead Sea scrolls, further breaking a 40-year stranglehold on the documents.

Access to the scrolls, believed to have been written by a Jewish sect around the time of Christ, has been guarded jealously by an eight-member committee of Israel-based researchers dubbed "the cartel" by critics.

In recent months, two American institutions published portions of the scrolls in defiance of the committee.

Tuesday's announcement of publication of "a facsimile edition of the Dead Sea scrolls," a two-volume set, takes the academic revolt a major step further by offering the 20 per cent of scroll material never before seen, in addition to what was published but not readily available to all scholars.

"This represents the last stage in the breaking of the monopoly. Now there will be absolute, total public access," said Professor Robert H. Eisenman, chairman of religious studies at California State University in Long Beach and co-editor of the book.

Hershel Shanks, publications editor for the Washington, D.C.-based Biblical Archaeology Society that is publishing the book, also announced a new Institute for Dead Sea Studies, where scholars may study the manuscript and exchange information.

The scrolls were discovered in caves near the Dead Sea in 1947. Scholars believe they were written by members of a Jewish sect around the time of Jesus.

Although worn and badly fragmented, the 850 animal-skin scrolls contained references to many events depicted in the Bible, from the Great Flood described in Genesis to the execution of a Messiah-like leader.

Israel gained control of the scrolls during the war in 1967 and gave exclusive access to the committee under jurisdiction of the Israel antiquities authority.

While some 300 scrolls have been published elsewhere, critics charge that the committee's editors have released only about 100 in nearly 40 years, denying a rich lode of history to scholars.

"What enormous hubris and greed it was for eight men to think that in their lifetime they could edit and write commentaries on all of this material," said Mr. Shanks, a leading foe of the committee.

Mr. Eisenman said the 1,787 photographs of scrolls in the new books were delivered to him over a two-year period by an anonymous source.

He said he did not know who the source was, but believed it was no one connected with the Israeli committee or with either of the institutions that recently released material, the Huntington Library in San Marino, California, and Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati.

Professor Eugene Ulrich of Notre Dame University, a committee editor who denies that the group has withheld data unfairly, called the Eisenman-Robinson book "grandstanding" and "ethically questionable."

He added, however: "I would hope this will bring some peace and rest to the troubled waters of the Dead Sea scrolls project... I would like to see (Mr. Shanks) and his colleagues decide they've gotten enough kudos that they can get out of the warfare mentality."

Mr. Eisenman and his co-editor, Professor James M. Robinson, chairman of religion at California's Claremont College Graduate School, said they had no doubt that the anonymously donated photographs were authentic.

The experts differed as to what might be learned from the new material.

Mr. Shanks said he did not expect any "bombshells" that would dramatically change Biblical history, but Mr. Eisenman disagreed, saying some bombshells had been found in the Huntington's microfilm, and more were possible. He cited a recently published shred containing five lines of text referring to "Isaiah the Prophet" and a Messiah-like "leader of the community" being "put to death."

As Mr. Nosair fled, he was chased by several people. He shot Irving Franklin in the leg when the elderly man tried to stop him, Mr. Greenbaum said.

Mr. Nosair tried to commandeer a taxi, but driver Franklin Garcia, despite the gun to his head, could not get through the traffic, the prosecutor said.

Mr. Nosair leaped from the cab and ran, at one point shooting a uniformed postal service policeman in the arm, Mr. Greenbaum said. The officer, Carlos Acosta, fired back, hitting Mr. Nosair in the neck just under the chin and dropping him.

Mr. Kunster said Mr. Nosair was running because he was being chased by armed Kahane followers, and it was one of them, firing at Mr. Nosair, who shot Mr. Acosta.

"There were some strange things happening. There was enormous conflict within the Kach party (Kahane's Israeli political party) and the Jewish Defence League over both who would lead these organisations, what their programmes should be and over missing funds," the lawyer said in initial remarks.

He added, "The evidence will show that Nosair had met earlier with Kahane and had a one-on-one with him and was convinced that he had mellowed towards the Islamic religion and his position on Arabs." He said Mr. Nosair had been invited to hear Kahane speak by a Kahane aide.

Iraq says U.N. denied permission to buy oil metering equipment

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Iraq's U.N. representative said Tuesday the U.N. Sanctions Committee had recently rejected a request by Baghdad to import American oil-metering equipment for a Gulf oil terminal.

The request was rejected, he said, because Iraq had not accepted yet Resolution 706, Ambassador Abdul Amir Al Anbari told Reuters.

Resolution 706, adopted in August, and a follow-up resolution in September, would allow Iraq to export up to \$1.6 billion worth of oil over a six-month period and to buy food and other civilian necessities with part of the proceeds, to be paid into a U.N. escrow account.

The rest of the money would go for war reparations and other debts stemming from Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in August 1990.

"We requested the Sanctions Committee to agree that an American company (could) export certain equipment for metering oil," Mr. Anbari said.

The request was made about a month ago "to prepare our ports in southern Iraq for oil exports," he added.

He noted that Resolution 706, which Iraq has not yet agreed to implement, required that any oil be exported through a pipeline across Turkey.

"We have not decided yet on the resolution, and I assume Mr. Anbari, who arrived in Baghdad today, will discuss the matter with the government," Mr. Anbari said.

He was referring to Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, who heads U.N. humanitarian operations in Iraq and the Gulf region. He arrived in Baghdad on Tuesday to seek renewal of an April agreement under which the United Nations established "humanitarian centres" in various parts of Iraq and stationed some 500 U.N. guards in sensitive areas.

Asked if Iraqi oil would be exported from the Gulf only after U.N. sanctions against Iraq had been lifted, he said: "It's difficult really to speculate. Perhaps if the security council would agree to change the routes (for oil exports), Iraq might be willing then (to export oil from the Gulf). Or if they change various conditions in Resolution 706, Iraq might be willing."

He said the condition that the oil flow via Turkey was one of a number of problems that Baghdad had with the resolution.

"The Turks have asked that the dues should be tripled or quadrupled," Mr. Anbari said.

Iraq was accused on Tuesday of strapping women and children to government tanks during the Kurdish and Shiite rebellions last March and using torture and murder against perceived enemies.

A news U.N. human rights report says the charges were based on allegations, some of them unsubstantiated, and photographs sent to a special rapporteur looking into abuses in Iraq.

But the official, Max van der Stoep of the Netherlands, said in the report that Iraq had failed to answer many complaints adequately.

The general tenor of the government's reply "aims to avoid responsibility by asserting mitigating factors, attributing to others or simply denying allegations," he said.

Defence says wrong man on trial in Kahane case

NEW YORK (Agencies) — The defence lawyer for an Egyptian immigrant accused of killing Rabbi Meir Kahane told jurors Tuesday that the fiery right-wing rabbi was actually shot to death by his own followers.

William Kunster argued that his client, Al Sayyid Nosair, was framed by Kahane's militant Jewish followers. It was they, he said, who killed their leader in "a terrible dispute over missing money."

Mr. Nosair had no reason to kill Kahane because he had come to believe that the radical Zionist had softened his hard line on Arabs and the Mideast, Mr. Kunster said in his opening statement at Mr. Nosair's murder trial.

Mr. Kunster blamed the shooting on Kach International, a political group Kahane founded. Mr. Kunster did not reveal any evidence to support his statement, which he had not mentioned publicly before, except to say, "we had a tip."

In addition to murder, Mr. Nosair, 36, is charged with attempted murder, criminal possession of a weapon, assault, coercion and reckless endangerment.

Assistant District Attorney William Greenbaum, without discussing motive, said Mr. Nosair shot Kahane through the neck around 9 p.m. on Nov. 5, 1990, after the rabbi had addressed about 100 people at a hotel on Manhattan's East Side.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Islamic group condemns Israeli raid

NICOSIA (R) — The 45-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) Wednesday condemned an Israeli police raid on an Islamic courthouse in East Jerusalem and said the move sought to undermine the Middle East peace process. A statement issued by OIC Secretary-General Hamid Al Gabid, faxed to Reuters in Nicosia, described Monday's raid as "another criminal aggression against Islamic endowments and properties." Court officials believed Israeli police took papers on property ownership as part of an effort to seize control of Arab-owned houses. Israeli police said they took material they suspected incited Arab resistance to Israel.

"The secretary general strongly condemns this barbaric aggression... (aimed at) Judaising the Holy City and changing its Islamic, cultural and demographic identity," the statement said. "The secretary-general feels that this aggression is also an attempt to sabotage the on-going peace process in the Middle East," it added.

Group urges Denmark not to expel Palestinians

COPENHAGEN (R) — The Middle East Watch human rights group has urged Denmark not to send back to Lebanon a group of Palestinians seeking asylum in Copenhagen. The government has rejected asylum appeals by about 125 stateless Palestinians, single men who used to live in Lebanon. Nearly 70 took refuge in a Copenhagen church in September to avoid expulsion. In a letter to Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, Middle East Watch said the asylum-seekers were "peculiarly vulnerable to arrest" if they went back to Lebanon. "The prospect of their being transferred to Syria, for interrogation and possible imprisonment, is real," the New York-based organisation said in the letter, received here on Wednesday. "The burden is on the Danish authorities to justify in public the argument that they will not face political persecution..." the letter said.

Food running low in Ethiopian camps

GENEVA (R) — Food stocks are running low in camps housing 500,000 refugees in eastern Ethiopia and relief workers cannot bring in new supplies due to attacks on vehicles, the United Nations said Tuesday. "Deteriorating security is virtually preventing delivery of food to camps in the eastern region," a spokeswoman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) told a regular news briefing. "If the situation does not improve, the camps will run out of food very soon," a UNHCR statement said. Some 38,000 tonnes of food destined for Ethiopia was waiting in neighbouring Djibouti and more than 600 tonnes had been delivered daily by air and road to Dire Dawa, Ethiopia's second-largest city, up to Nov. 11, the statement added. But all movement of vehicles in Dire Dawa had been suspended after trucks were shot at and a food convoy from Djibouti was hijacked by armed bandits. Two refugees were wounded and UNHCR staff in Dire Dawa and Jijiga, further east, were unable to enter the camps to monitor the situation, the UNHCR said. The statement said the UNHCR was considering organising an airlift, or bringing food to the camps through the small port of Berbera in neighbouring Somalia, or repatriating Somali refugees to their homes in northwest Somalia.

Bulgaria says Turkish problem will not last

LONDON (R) — Unrest among Bulgaria's minority Turkish population arising from years of persecution won't last, Bulgaria's Minister for Trade and Industry Ivan Pushkarov said Tuesday. "It is a problem that has been artificially created and it won't last," Mr. Pushkarov told businessmen in London. Five years ago, Bulgaria's former communist government forced Turkish people to change their names to Bulgarian ones and, in the run up to elections last month, Turkish lessons were banned from schools in many areas of Bulgaria. But Mr. Pushkarov said his Union of Democratic Forces Party (UDF), which won Bulgaria's second democratic elections last month, was working with the Turks to solve the problem. The UDF believes "that all ethnic groups have equal right to economic, political and social life," Mr. Pushkarov said. The government needs the support of the Turkish community if it is to keep its majority in parliament.

Some Kuwaiti oil wells to be abandoned

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Up to 30 per cent of Kuwait's oil wells will have to be abandoned, after being set ablaze in the Gulf war, and the country's oil production is not expected to return to its former levels before 1994, a U.N. committee was told Tuesday. Margaret Anstee, who heads the U.N. efforts to help control the environmental effects of the 732 wells that were set on fire, also said that barely 45 per cent of the wells will be able to resume production with only minor repairs. Addressing the General Assembly's Economic and Financial Committee, she said: "Fighting the fires is estimated to have cost the country (Kuwait) \$2 billion. Assessments of the damage to the wells themselves are still not complete, but the government estimates that two per cent of the country's 100 billion barrels of reserves has been lost and that up to 30 per cent of the wells will have to be abandoned." Ms. Anstee, who is director-general of the U.N. office in Vienna, added: "Barely 45 per cent will be able to return to production with only minor repairs and overall production is not expected to return to its former levels before 1994." Before the August 1990 Iraqi invasion Kuwait was capable of producing two million barrels of oil per day.

Libyan envoy's son dies of stab wounds

VALLETTA (AP) — The Libyan ambassador's son who was stabbed three days ago died of his wounds and a Maltese youth was charged Tuesday with the murder, police said. When news broke Sunday that Salah Shabati, 16, had been stabbed in a scuffle outside a pinball parlor, there was speculation that the violence might have been connected in some way to U.S. and British contentions that the suitcase bomb which blew up Pan Am flight 103 over Scotland in 1988 had first become part of airline luggage in Malta. But police quickly said stabbing of the son of Ambassador Ahmad Shabati sprang from "trivial personal motives" among young people.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

PROGRAMME TWO

18:30 Lela et les Sardines
19:00 Maggy
19:05 News in French
19:15 Chique
19:20 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 The Simpsons
21:10 NBA Basketball
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature Film: One-Eyed Jack

PRAYER TIMES

04:35 Fajr
05:54 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
16:19 Asr
16:45 Maghreb
19:04 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedish Tel. 870740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terrasanta Church Tel. 62366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 623583, Tel. 626543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771531
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772661
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Assiout International Church Tel. 623981, 68326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811285
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tel. 623824 and 654922
Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Slight rise in temperatures will take place and winds will be light and variable. In Amman, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Amman: 10/12
Aqaba: 14/22
Dead Sea: 8/23
Jordan Valley: 15/28

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 20, Aqaba 27. Humidity readings: Amman 69 per cent, Aqaba 33 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Raymond Halayya 793522
Dr. Yehya Abdul Rahim 736072
Dr. Fakhri Abu Tayeh 885880
Dr. Hisham Kanaan 790286
Fire pharmacy 661912
Ferdous pharmacy 778336
Al Azaza pharmacy 637055
Nawroth pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shumaila pharmacy 637660

IRBID:
Dr. Hamdi Barham 623101
Al Shera'a pharmacy (963236)

ZARQA:
Dr. Ghassan Al Faqih 680100

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Emergency 630441
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 893590
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Repairs Telephone Repairs 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Abdali Telephone 651101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6
Abdullah Maternity, J. Amn 642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shamsiyya 664171/4
Shamsiyya Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Abdi, Abdali 664164/6
Jalal, Al-Muhajirin 775111/26
Al-Bashir, J. Adrafah 775111/26
Army, Marka 891611/5
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)963323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560
The Sina Hospital (09)966732

AL HILMA Modern Hospital (09)990990
IRBID:
Princess Banna Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272775
Bin Al Nafos Hospital (02)547100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)5200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
8:15 Sanaa (RJ)
8:15 Riyadh (RJ)
8:30 Amman (RJ)
9:30 Cairo (RJ)
9:30 Dhahran (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)
13:45 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (GF)
14:00 Tripoli (LN)
14:30 Cairo (MS)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
06:15 Beirut (RJ)
07:00 Amman (RJ)
14:30 Rome (RJ)
14:30 Amsterdam, Montreal (RJ)
11:30 Paris (RJ)
12:30 London (RJ)
12:30 Athens (RJ)
19:45 Cairo (RJ)
21:00 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
21:00 Jeddah (RJ)
21:00 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
21:30 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
21:30 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

13:45 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (GF)
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MARKET PRICES

Upplower price in \$/kg per 500

Apples	600/500
Bananas	200/450
Beans	250/500
Beans	850/650
Cabbages	160/120
Cauliflowers	220/170
Cucumbers (large)	180/120
Cucumbers (small)	360/320
Eggplants	280/220
Garlic	300/700
Grapes	500/600
Onions	200/400
Lemons	180/120
Melons (large)	160/120
Melons (small)	320/300
Oranges	850/750
Onions (dry)	170/120
Peppers (hot)	320/260
Peppers (sweet)	450/400
Potatoes	300/250
Sage	600/500
Spinach	220/160
Sweet melon	220/180
Tomatoes	420/360
Watermelon	160/120

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

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DEPARTURES

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07:00 Amman (RJ)
14:30

TCC to impose stricter bill collection regulations

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) has worked out a new system to be introduced next year allowing telephone subscribers only one month to pay their bills instead of the current four or six months. Arrangements are being made with the various TCC departments in the Kingdom for the application of the new system in 1992.

The announcement was made by TCC Director General Ahmad Nawawi, who said that computers with information about subscribers have been installed at various TCC departments so that officials can discover any defaulting subscribers or issue new bills as requested.

During 1991, the TCC followed a certain system, warning subscribers to settle their bills within a given period of time and then followed that by partly suspending the telephone lines. Later, full disruption was made in case the subscribers still failed to pay their dues.

According to Mr. Nawawi, the TCC had to resort to such measures to ensure the collection of

millions of dinars in dues to the treasury. He said that the same system will continue, but it will be on a monthly basis next year.

Should subscribers fail to completely pay their dues after suspension of telephone service, their cases will be referred to the general prosecutor for proper legal action. That could mean seizure of transferable and fixed assets or imposing a ban on travel abroad, Mr. Nawawi said.

Asked to comment on the numerous complaints from the public about the extra local phone calls appearing on their bills, Mr. Nawawi said that each subscriber has 1000 free calls a year, each lasting six minutes or so. Beyond that, every call is considered an extra call and will appear on the quarterly bill, Mr. Nawawi said.

Mr. Nawawi denied there were miscalculations in the charges appearing on the bills and said that the telephone exchange is fully automated and computerised, with the calls automatically recorded, giving the date and time.

New park opened in Ras Al Ein area

AMMAN (Petra) — As part of the Kingdom's ongoing celebrations of His Majesty King Hussein's birthday, deputy mayor of Amman Ismail Al Armoqi inaugurated Wednesday Al Quds Park in the Ras Al Ein area.

Mr. Armoqi toured the various parts of the park, which was planted with fruit and forest trees.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by several department directors at Amman municipality.

Mr. Armoqi also opened Al Qudsweh Park in Al Qudsweh area. The park, which is 10 square dunams, includes a volleyball court and a children's playground.

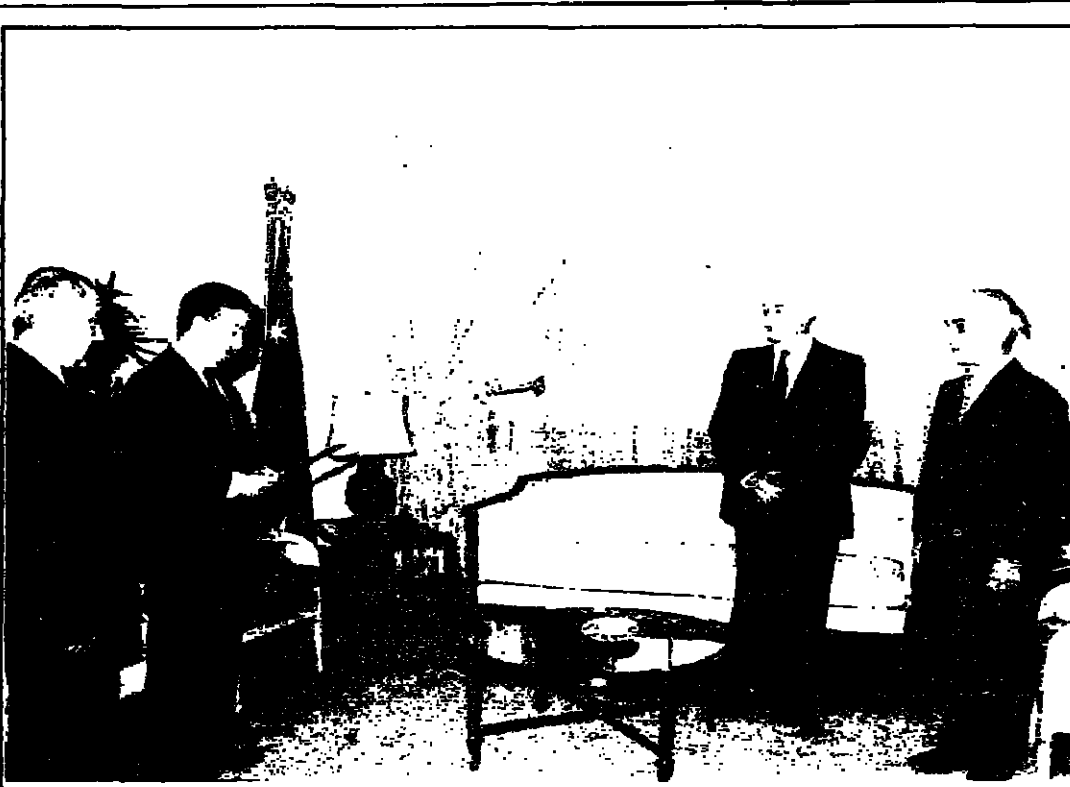
Inhabitants of the Qudsweh area Wednesday organised a

celebration on the occasion of the King's birthday. The celebration included speeches and folkloric dances and songs. Another celebration of the occasion was held Monday in Zarqa city.

Zarqa Governor Mohammad Hussein Al Shobaki delivered a speech in which he lauded the King's principled stands on Arab issues, particularly the Palestinian question.

He also outlined the developments Jordan has achieved under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein.

The celebration, which included national songs and dances, was attended by members of parliament, heads of local councils, deans of community colleges and directors of government departments.



SWEARING IN CEREMONY — Jordan's ambassador-designate to Bahrain, Dr. Shaker Arabiyat, is due to assume his post in Manama early in December. Dr. Arabiyat will be replacing Amjad Al Majali, who has been transferred to the Foreign Ministry in Amman. Dr. Arabiyat was sworn in for the post before His Majesty King

Hussein at the Royal Court Tuesday. Also sworn in was Kamal Hassa, who was appointed ambassador at the Foreign Ministry in Amman. Attending the swearing in ceremony were Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber and the King's military secretary.

Technical committee issues recommendations on utilising alternative sources of energy

AMMAN (Petra) — A technical committee concerned with energy matters has just published a working paper featuring proposed policies and strategies on the employment of science and technology for the proper exploitation of energy resources in Jordan.

Dr. Fawaz Al Karmi, Director of the energy sector at the Higher Council for Science and Technology (HCST), said that it took the committee one year and several months to prepare a working paper of proposals, which was presented to the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources and other concerned departments.

The technical committee groups representatives from the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, the Natural Resources Authority, the Jordan Electric Power Company (JEP-CCO), the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company, the Royal Scientific Society, the University of Jordan, the Jordan Investment Corporation, the Industrial Development Bank and the Amman Chamber of Industry.

Among the topics given priority on the list was the prospect of

finding alternative sources of power, including the exploitation of oil shale, which is found in abundance in the Kingdom.

The committee suggested ideas by which institutions dealing with science and technology, including the HCST, can conduct serious studies on extracting oil from shale at commercial levels, Dr. Karmi said.

The committee also gave due attention to the exploitation of solar and wind power with proposals for the manufacture of components of machinery and equipment used in this field, Dr. Karmi added.

He said that the committee proposed that a special fund for scientific research be created to draw resources from contributions of the private and public sectors. The contributions will finance studies and research work similar to a system adopted in advanced nations.

Dr. Karmi blamed poor contribution of science and technology to the development of alternative energy resources in Jordan on the lack of coordination among the various scientific institutions in the Kingdom. He said that studies over the past

year showed that most institutions operating in energy fields have been relying totally on imported technology and not giving an opportunity for the development of local technology.

He further said that the committee suggested posting technological attaches at Jordanian embassies abroad, a system adopted by Japan, in order to benefit from the experiments of advanced nations.

According to Dr. Karmi, the committee suggested the creation of a data bank that would feed information about energy-related matters to the concerned departments.

Other proposals, he said, concern the rationalisation of energy consumption, insulation in buildings to save energy and matters related to the protection of the environment.

Dr. Karmi said that the committee has given due concern to the question of oil and natural gas exploration and has suggested the creation of a national company to carry out oil prospecting. He said such a company would be cooperating in this endeavour with the foreign firms.



EMBROIDERY BAZAAR

— Deputising for Her Majesty Queen Zela Al Sharaf, Her Royal Highness Princess Basma opened at Al Hussein Youth City Wednesday the annual bazaar of the diplomatic corps in Amman. The bazaar, in which 20 Arab and foreign states participated, includes ceramics, embroideries and

products by mabarrat (orphans) Umm Al Hussein as well as products by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). The bazaar, whose proceeds will benefit the orphanage, was also attended by Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Al Faisal and Princess Ghaidaa Talal in addition to the prime minister's wife.

684 teachers graduated

AMMAN (J.T.) — A ceremony was held at the Palace of Culture in Amman Wednesday for the graduation of the first and second batches of students from the Higher Teachers Training College.

A total of 684 teachers graduated following two-year training courses. They received their degrees from Minister of Culture and Higher Education Khaleel Karaki.

The college dean, Dr. Ahmad Abu Hilal, delivered an address in which he noted that the Teachers Training College was established in implementation of a resolution passed by the first National Education Conference held in 1987.

The teachers who graduated Wednesday received their first university degrees after successfully completing a two-year training course in addition to their first two years of basic teachers training they had obtained earlier, Dr. Abu Hilal said.

DFLP condemns Israeli raid on courthouse, calls for return of documents

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) Wednesday condemned an Israeli police raid on an Islamic courthouse in east Jerusalem.

The DFLP official spokesman, Saleh Raafat, said in a statement, a copy of which was obtained by the Jordan Times, that this action affirmed "the Israeli government's aggressive and racial policy and demonstrates its denial of our people's right to practise its religious rituals and to maintain its possessions and religious place."

He said this is a flagrant challenge to the international will, which is seeking a just and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem in a manner that guarantees the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and establishing their state on its national soil.

"We consider the Israeli government accountable for such ac-

tions and refuse all forms and techniques of deceit through which this government is trying to evade responsibility and to blame the police for what happened," the statement said.

The Israeli police Monday confiscated from the courthouse and adjacent buildings important historic documents on property ownership in the old city.

The statement appealed to the leaders of Arab and Islamic countries and the international community, particularly the United States and the Soviet Union, to intervene and request that all stolen documents be returned.

It called for placing the occupied territories under international protection until the Palestinian people obtain their freedom and independence.

Also Wednesday, Lower House of Parliament Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat asked the chairman of the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU), Abdul Aziz

Bilhadim, to list the issue of the Israeli police raid on the Islamic courthouse in Jerusalem on the agenda of the APU's next extraordinary meeting.

Mr. Bilhadim had earlier sent a letter to Dr. Arabiyat in which he called for convening an emergency session to discuss important issues of concern to the Arab nation, especially threats against Libya.

The Arab Youth Forum also voiced condemnation of the Israeli action. In a statement issued Wednesday, it said this action is a separate attempt by the occupation forces to violate international law.

The statement appealed to the secretary general of the United Nations, Javier Perez de Cuellar, and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and all local Arab and international organisations to condemn this crime and force Israel to return the stolen document.

4th century Byzantine church discovered in Petra

AMMAN (J.T.) — Archaeological excavations carried out at the ancient Nabatean city of Petra in southern Jordan has led to the discovery of a magnificent fourth century Byzantine church in the heart of the ancient site, Tourism Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabarti announced Wednesday.

The discovery was made thanks to the efforts of American archaeologist Dr. Kenneth Russell, who is employed by the American Centre for Oriental Research (ACOR), which is based in Amman, the minister said in his announcement.

The mosaics uncovered from the preliminary excavations already indicate an extremely refined quality of work and are considered the earliest of their kind not only in Jordan, but possibly in the world according to a statement from the ministry.

They constitute a priceless cultural resource in Jordan, the significance which qualifies them as a world treasure the statement said.

Expert opinion indicates that the church, with its mosaics, compares to the famous St. Catherine Church in Sinai, Egypt, and may even pre-date it, according to the statement.

The ministry of Tourism was able to secure financial support from U.S.A.I.D. in the amount of \$600,000 for the excavation, conservation and restoration of this church.

This project, which is expected to be terminated within a year, would certainly enhance and broaden the touristic attraction in Petra, thus contributing a great economic impact to Jordan, the ministry said.

The Ministry of Tourism's increased attention in the rose-red city was manifested further by its signing of two agreements with Germany and France aimed at preserving the ancient city.

The German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) last Wednesday signed an agreement with the Ministry of Tourism to finance and implement a project designed to help protect the ancient city and carry out restoration work at the site.

Under the agreement, the GTZ will offer 1.6 million Deutschmarks to cover the cost of the first two years of the project, which is scheduled to be completed in seven years.

German minister praises, criticises Jordanian policy on families

By Serene Halasa
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The German Federal Minister for Families and Senior Citizens, Hannelore Roensch, is currently on a visit to the Kingdom to collect data on social and family policies as well as policies regarding the elderly here.

Mrs. Roensch, whose visit comes upon an invitation extended by Minister of Social Development Awni Al Bashir, will visit many social and family centres, to study the social situation in the Kingdom and ways to enhance and exchange views on developmental issues.

Earlier on Wednesday, Mrs. Roensch met with Prime Minister Taher Masi and discussed Jordan's current social situation, especially the impact of the returnees following the Gulf crisis.

"The European world and the entire world has to help this region, especially Jordan," Mrs. Roensch told the Jordan Times. "We have good relations with this country and we are always looking with interest on the situation here."

Mrs. Roensch also met with Dr. Al Bashir, who briefed her on the various developmental projects in the Kingdom, including help extended to the poor and the handicapped through about 600 social welfare societies.

Dr. Al Bashir told the German Minister that the Ministry of Social Development was providing services to 25,000 poor and needy families.

He also said that the ministry was planning to allocate JD 8 million in the 1992 fiscal budget to cater to the needs of those families through the National Aid Fund, which seeks to provide funds for needy families in the Kingdom.

The ministers also discussed family planning and the birth rate, which has risen above 3.8 per cent in the Kingdom.

"In Germany we have the opposite problem, people don't want children unless they are given the right incentives to have one or more," she said.

"In the social aid sector,

Germany and Jordan have similar problems," Mrs. Roensch said. "I believe that the government should play a big role in aiding poor families, who are most of the time ashamed of their situation, and help them raise their standards above the poverty line."

The German Minister visited a number of social development centres as well as Al Hussein Society for the Welfare of the child.

"The society is well equipped and takes good care of its children, but I also saw that there were differences in principles due to religious and social trends in the fact that a child is taken away from an unwed mother and she is not allowed to see them," Mrs. Roensch said.

In Germany, single parents constitute 15 per cent of the population, yet they maintain responsibility for their children, she said.

"It is not up to me to criticise Jordanian society, but I believe that it is better for a child to live with one of the parents than be taken from them," she said.

Mrs. Roensch also spoke about the state of the elderly and said that she was happy to see that many senior citizens live with their families in Jordan.

"In Germany, many elderly people live alone and the government helps them when they need it, but still tries to maintain their independence," Mrs. Roensch said.

She also referred to a recent study conducted in large German cities concerning single households. "More than 50 per cent of the housing in big cities are single households, but to our surprise we discovered that many of those living alone actually live near other family members in the same area," she said.

"We are in the process of doing new housing projects to reunite families," she added.

The German minister, who will leave Jordan on Sunday, is scheduled to meet with Her Majesty Queen Noor, Her Royal Highness Princess Basma as well as representatives of the Women's Federation.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

King confers medal on Turkish ambassador

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday conferred Al Istiklal Medal of the First Order on the outgoing Turkish ambassador to the Kingdom Oktay Aksoy on the occasion of the end of his tour of duty. Mr. Aksoy was decorated with the medal by Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber at a luncheon held in his honour.

Deputy meets Palestinian ambassador

AMMAN (Petra) — Lower House of Parliament Deputy Speaker Nayef Al Hadid met Monday with Palestinian ambassador to Jordan Al Tayyeb Abdul Rahim. Mr. Abdul Rahim and Mr. Hadid discussed the latest developments in the peace process.

Ambassador meets UAE officials

ABU DHABI (Petra) — Jordan's ambassador to the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Awad Abu Obeid, met Tuesday with the emirate Finance and Industry Minister Sheikh Hamdan Ben Rashid Al Maktoum and with the governor of the eastern province in Al Ain City, Sheikh Tahnoon Ben Mohammad Al Nahayan. The two meetings discussed bilateral relations between Jordan and the UAE and the latest developments in the peace process. Mr. Abu Obeid briefed the two UAE officials on Jordan's stands on the peace process and called for coordinating Arab efforts to be able to face the challenge confronting the Arab Nation.

Committee appeals for donations for Iraq

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Emergency Health Committee of the Arab Doctors Federation appealed to citizens to present donations to support Iraq and to contribute to financing a medical supplies convoy which will be sent to the Iraqi people, who are suffering because of the international embargo imposed on Iraq since its invasion of Kuwait in August 1990. At Al Orthodox Club on Dec. 3, the committee will organise an austerity dinner. It will also hold auction to sell land donated by a citizen in Sahab, south of Amman, to finance the purchase of food supplies and milk for Iraq. The proceeds will benefit the Iraqi children.

Jordan to take part in crime conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the meetings of the United Nations' Ministerial Conference on Protection from Crimes and Criminal Investigation, which will open in Paris Thursday. The conference will discuss a host of recommendations pertaining to the future work of the U.N. in the field of criminology. Interior Minister Jawdat Al Shoul left Amman for Paris Wednesday to represent Jordan at the conference.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition entitled "Graphic Arts of the 60s" (from the Federal Republic of Germany) at the Abdul Hameed Showman Foundation gallery (opens from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.).
- ★ Exhibition entitled "Goethe Forest" at Yarmouk University.
- ★ Art exhibition by Itham Al Turk and Asham Al Turk at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of children's paintings commemorating the 3rd anniversary of the declaration of the state of Palestine at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Farooq Lambaz at Alia Art Gallery (opening ceremony at 5:30 p.m.).

FILM

- ★ Episode six of a nine-part series entitled "The Civil War" at the American Centre — 7 p.m.

Jordanians to participate in international workshop

AMMAN (J.T.) — The International Developing Research Centre (IDRC) in Ottawa, Canada, is sponsoring an international workshop on Leishmaniasis Control Strategies in developing countries to be held in Merida, Mexico, next week.

Participants from 40 countries from Latin and Central America, Africa and the Middle East will discuss over five days the current situation of this widespread endemic disease, which affects around two million people every year.

The epidemiological factors, and the relation of the spread of the disease to development and human factors will be discussed. Dr. Oumeish Youssef Oumeish, the president of the Jordanian Dermatological and Venereological Society, Dr. Sami Khouri, Professor of community medicine and Dr. Elias Saliba, professor of biological sciences from the University of Jordan will participate in the workshop.

They will present the research work done in Jordan on the disease, which is sponsored by the IDRC and present the Jordanian experience in the

way of prevention and control of such community disease problems.

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Jordan Times

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Middle East peace, stability promise increased investment

By Ghadeer Taber
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — If the Arabs and Israel can overcome over 40 years of hostility through a comprehensive settlement, the economic advantages of peace, mainly cuts in huge military spending and billions of dollars in long-term investment, will be some of the biggest benefits for the countries in the region.

Peace and political stability are the central objectives of the Middle East peace process but economic advantages in an area rich in resources but poor in management remain dominant in the minds of politicians and leaders increasingly under pressure to improve their people's living conditions as unemployment and poverty rise.

Analysts and economists agree that political stability would result in the diversion of funds from military spending to economic development and bring in long-term foreign investment to replace traditional quick-profit, short-term trading.

"No one is going to invest billions of dollars into this region unless there is stability and assurances that their profits and interests are protected," said Dr. Tayseer Abdel Jaber, under-secretary general of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). "If there is a just peace in the region, there would also be diversion of funds from armaments and increased cooperation on major regional issues such as the water problem."

Another major peace dividend, economic consultant Safwan Bataineh argues, would be a change in the attitude of people and officials in the region about long-term planning.

One of "the biggest dividends is that individuals and governments will start behaving in more rational terms," said Mr. Bataineh. "They will invest more, expand existing operations, and reinvest profits into the region. This change in attitude would have a great impact on the economy."

In addition to American political pressure on the parties concerned, many analysts be-

lieve that economic pressures played a role in bringing the participants to the negotiating table in Madrid.

Israel's participation in the U.S.-Soviet-sponsored peace conference was influenced by its need for money to settle nearly 400,000 Soviet Jews who already arrived in Israel and the tens of thousands expected to follow.

Israel has asked the U.S. to guarantee \$10 billion in loans that would be used to absorb the new arrivals. But Washington has held up consideration of the package until after progress is achieved on the peace front.

Progress towards peace is also expected to end the Arab boycott of Israel, open new markets for the Jewish state, and possibly help Jordan, suffering from \$8 billion foreign debt, and other Arab countries, in their bid for aid and financial concessions from international lenders.

Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, who have suffered unprecedented economic hardships as Israeli occupation forces further limit job opportunities and restrict freedom and education, also hope to gain a breathing space to rebuild their shattered economy. Palestinians, who have also been affected by the protest strikes of the intifada as well as the cut of nearly \$400 million in foreign aid and remittances from the Gulf states, believe peace could only ease their plight.

Jordan, which was punished by the Gulf states for its stand in the Gulf crisis by a cut in aid, is also grappling with having to absorb nearly 200,000 Palestinians expelled from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait as well as thousands of Iraqis who have flooded the Kingdom. Amman is hoping its cooperation in the peace process will translate into substantial amounts of development aid.

According to the president of the Kuwait-based Fund for Economic and Social Development, Abdul Latif Hamad, the debts of poor Arab countries grew from \$11 billion in 1975 to \$116 billion, representing more than 83 per cent of their

gross national product, in 1989. Over the same period, the debts of wealthy Arab oil producers jumped to \$84 billion from \$16 billion, excluding the military debts of countries like Iraq. Dr. Hamad told a recent financial conference in Bahrain.

But peace in the Middle East is unlikely to bring about multi-billion dollar aid packages similar to the Marshall Plan for Europe or for Egypt and Israel after the 1979 Camp David accord. The biggest benefit may come from a sharp reduction in the military budgets of the countries of the Middle East, the world's principal market for arms and military equipment.

The Middle East's share of the world arms market was 37 per cent in 1978; it rose to a

high of 42 per cent in 1983 and dropped to 31 per cent in 1988, according to a U.S. report, World Military Expenditures and Arms Transfers in 1989, released in October 1990.

"We should not expect assistance proportionate or similar to a Marshall Plan for the Middle East because the likely donors are under pressure," said Mr. Bataineh. "The Gulf countries are running out of money, Europe is using almost every penny to help Eastern Europe and the U.S. Congress is unlikely to sanction major increases in foreign aid domestic concerns increase."

Dr. Abdel Jaber predicted that an economic fund would be established for the region to improve cooperation and coor-

dinate regional projects. He said that ESCWA already had detailed and substantive studies providing ideas for economic and social development projects in the region and on how to deal with regional problems such as water.

The U.N. official said countries members of ESCWA are planning a meeting in Cairo next April to discuss the impact of a possible peace settlement on the economies of the region.

He said unemployment, one of the main problems in the region, would require billions in investment to create new job opportunities in the context of a peaceful settlement.

According to a report published recently in a London-based newspaper, Israel has

already suggested several projects that could be jointly undertaken by European states, Israel, and its Arab neighbours.

The report in Al Hayat daily said Israel submitted a 12-page proposal to the European Community, detailing projects that could be shared by countries in the region with European participation. The projects include cooperation on agriculture, water desalination and preservation, energy generation through solar power and cooperation on environmental matters.

The paper quoted European officials as saying that progress on such projects hinged on a political breakthrough without which the Israeli "ideas" remain just that.

Labour on the move?

ISRAELI Labour Party's apparent willingness to reconsider the law that bans contacts with the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) could be the beginning of the end of this archaic piece of legislation and the dawning of a new era in the Palestinian-Israeli relations. This new stance could emerge from the ongoing Labour Party conference convened to debate and adopt a new political platform on which the Labour Party will run for the upcoming 1992 elections.

There are of course extreme forces within the party which still cling to the 1986 law that forbade any talks with the PLO and continue to uphold the party's own decision to join forces with the Likud bloc in adopting the law outlawing contacts with the Palestinian organisation. If in the final analysis, however, common sense prevails in the Labour Party's congress and the members end up dissociating themselves from the outdated law, then there could be greater opportunities to repeal the legislation in order to set the stage for more honest admission and recognition that the PLO is still the legitimate representative of the Palestinians and it has a crucial role to play in the search for peace.

No doubt the performance of the Palestinian delegation to the Madrid peace conference that concluded the first stage of negotiations between the Arab parties and Israel only a few weeks ago has a great deal to do with the erosion of Israeli support for the Israeli law against the PLO. To begin with, the Palestinian representatives conducted themselves admirably, responsibly and tactfully. This had led many observers, including Israelis, to hail the Palestinians as moderates and rational in their quest for their rights during the three-day Madrid meetings. Dr. Hanan Ashrawi, the spokeswoman of the Palestinian delegation had shown during those eventful days that the Palestinians are not only reasonable but realistic enough to recognise that the name of the game henceforth is "give and take." But that is not all. The Palestinian delegation also reinforced the well-founded presumption that the PLO and the Palestinians are synonymous and inseparable no matter what semantics have been used to drive a wedge between them or distinguish one from the other.

The Madrid conference, therefore, demonstrated more than anything else that the Israeli law prohibiting any meeting or contact with the Palestinian leadership is a sham and devoid of any usefulness. If the Labour Party can succeed in the course of its current three-day congress to bring their country back to its senses over the issue of the PLO, then the euphoria about the prospects of peace in the region would be that much more realistic. Admittedly this is an uphill battle that cannot be expected to attain victory without additional struggles within Israel itself. Nevertheless, the corrective course within the Israeli body politic must begin somewhere and the present deliberations of the Labour Party members is a very good place to launch this new perspective towards common sense, moderation and eventually peace.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AS THE world is busying itself with the release of two Western hostages and talking about terrorism and terrorism, we hope that the Western countries in general and the United States in particular would not ignore the new act of terrorism and atrocity committed by the Israeli authorities which stormed the Sharia courthouse and stole Islamic documents, said Al Rai Arabic daily Wednesday. It is not enough to hear Washington, for instance, expressing regret over the incident or calling such an action as harmful to the peace process, because Arabs and Muslims detest such reaction which is worth nothing, said the paper. Millions of Arabs consider the Israeli action as a crime condoned by the Americans and backed by Paris and London, stressed the paper. We feel we are the victims of Israel's aggression and we await speedy action on the part of the United Nations to put things right and to end the double-standard dealings with world issues, said the daily. It said that countries which still have courage and are opposed to Israel's inhuman practices should raise their voice high, condemn such acts and demand that justice be done to the Palestinians and the Arabs. The crime committed by Israel, the paper added, should not pass without condemnation and total exposure as a flagrant violation of all international principles and detrimental to the peace process.

A government decision to allocate JD 45 million in the 1992 fiscal budget to give cost of living allowances to the civil servants was discussed by a columnist in Sawt Al Shaab daily. Suleiman Barzawi said that the government employees have been waiting anxiously for the allowance in view of the high cost of living and the soaring prices. The employees, according to government sources, are to receive a JD 10 monthly only, but it is feared that this raise would be insignificant in the face of a new wave of soaring prices, bringing disappointment to the employees who are considered as low-paid group, the writer noted. What is needed and required from the new government is to stabilise the prices of basic commodities and maintain control on them so that no manipulation can take place, said the writer. If the government employees are to benefit from the raise, everything possible should be done or enable them to do so and improve their standard of living, said the writer. He said that the low income of the government employees had been reflected in their poor performance and production, and it is hoped that the new government's policies would help end this phenomenon.

Release of Westerners seen as push to end hostage crisis

By Ed Blanche
The Associated Press

DAMASCUS — Finally, the end of the Lebanon hostage ordeal may be in sight.

Former British hostage Terry Waite said his Shiite Muslim captors told him the three remaining American hostages could be released by the end of the month.

In New York, U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said the hostage-holders, Iran and Syria have offered the release of all Western captives by Christmas.

The overwhelming impression from Monday's release of Mr. Waite and American Thomas Sutherland is that the U.N. effort to secure the hostages' freedom is gaining momentum.

Six Westerners have been freed this year — the most in any year since Shiite extremists began their kidnapping spree in Lebanon in 1984.

But more significantly, Mr. Waite, 52, and Mr. Sutherland, 60, were freed by Islamic Jihad without the Israelis freeing Arab prisoners first.

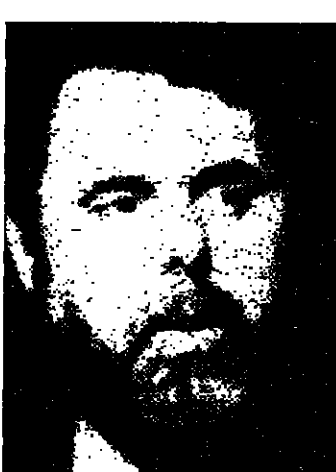
That raised speculation that U.N. negotiators have stitched together a deal with all involved in the complex affair: Iran, Syria, Israel and the Iranian-backed Hezbollah group.

Monday's double release appeared to underscore the kidnappers' willingness to end the hostages' long nightmare — a trend that surfaced when they freed Briton John McCarthy in August with a letter to Mr. Perez de Cuellar offering to cut a deal.

Initially, the kidnappers linked to the Hizbollah demanded freedom for about 300 Arabs, mainly Shiites held by Israel's proxy south Lebanon army militia.

Sixty-six have been freed, but the prisoner the Shiites want most, Hizbollah cleric Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid, remains in captivity.

Monday's events suggested that the kidnappers may be prepared to settle only for Sheikh Obeid.



Terry Waite



Thomas Sutherland

A few hours after Mr. Waite and Mr. Sutherland were freed, the Qatar News Agency quoted an Islamic Jihad spokesman as saying that if Sheikh Obeid were released "the case of the Western hostages would be resolved altogether."

Sheikh Obeid has become a rallying symbol among Lebanese Shiites since he was kidnapped by Israeli paratroopers from his south Lebanon home on July 28, 1989.

While welcoming Monday's releases, Israel gave no public hint that they plan to free any more Arab prisoners.

But the disclosures by Mr. Waite and Perez de Cuellar pointed to a marked acceleration in the process to end hostage crisis.

The delicate and complex trading in human lives has in the past been derailed by other events in the volatile region.

Muslim extremists' outcry against the U.S.-sponsored Arab-Israeli peace talks at one point appeared to threaten the U.N. effort to free the hostages.

A recent upsurge of violence in southern Lebanon between Hizbollah-dominated Shiite guerrillas and Israel also seemed to be a danger.

Bush faces political minefield as he strives for reelection

By Gene Gibbons
Reuter

WASHINGTON — It could be George Bush's lot to face this nightmare as he seeks reelection: a sick economy, a supreme court anti-abortion decision that angers women and a renege conservative candidate siphoning off votes he had counted on.

On the other hand, it is also possible there could be a major foreign policy triumph in 1992 that shows off the president's deftness in managing international crises.

Whichever, Mr. Bush suddenly finds himself in a precarious posture going into next year's race — although experience suggests that the power of incumbency and a Republican electoral vote advantage will still make him hard to beat.

Economic anguish and voter discontent are the reasons his reelection is in any doubt, and that is a remarkable turn of events for a president who only a few months ago enjoyed record support in the polls after the Gulf war.

The economic distress has split the administration and congressional Republicans along moderate-conservative lines, generating a cacophony of proposed solutions and a perception that no one has a handle on the problem.

Mr. Bush, who believes recovery is under way and whose basic instinct is to stand pat, might have made matters worse when he suggested in a speech last week that banks reduce credit card interest rates, one of their main profit centres.

Analysts said this helped trigger Friday's 120-point drop in the stock market, the fifth largest ever recorded. "There is a lot of division here about what to do, and that creates an impression of confusion," a White House insider said.

If the economy were not trouble enough, Mr. Bush might face additional election-year grief over the issue of abortion.

Pro-choice groups, striving to make a woman's right to the procedure a campaign issue, recently asked the Supreme Court to reaffirm its historic 1973 ruling legalising abortion by overturning a highly restrictive Pennsylvania law.

While Mr. Bush has urged the court to rescind the 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision — a stand unpopular with millions of women — all six Democrats seeking their party's presidential nomination support abortion rights.

The new abortion case could be decided during the 1991-92 court term that ends in June. But more likely, arguments could be heard next October — just before the November elections.

Democrats who had ridiculed Mr. Bush's fondness for travel promptly accused him of cancelling a trip that could do some good by strengthening U.S. relations with economic powerhouses on the Pacific rim. The White House then let it be known that the trip would probably take place in early January.

The political flailing by Mr. Bush and company is reminiscent

ing on white economic and racial resentment. He ran as a Republican disavowed by the party.

Mr. Bush's political problems have the White House in a state of panic. One giveaway sign was the abrupt postponement of a presidential goodwill trip to Asia and Australia amid a flurry of polls showing that many Americans believe the president is too preoccupied with international issues.

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The political flailing by Mr. Bush and company is reminiscent

NEWS ANALYSIS

Yet another concern for Mr. Bush is the prospect of a third party candidate siphoning off right-wing support.

He may well face a challenge from conservative Patrick Buchanan in the February 16 New Hampshire Republican primary, cutting into his ability as an unchallenged incumbent to set his own agenda while Democratic contenders bicker.

And many analysts predict that David Duke could challenge Mr. Bush in other Republican primaries or run as an independent candidate in the general election next November.

Mr. Duke, a former Ku Klux Klan leader and Nazi sympathiser, was trounced on Saturday in an election for Louisiana governor, but not before propelling himself into the national spotlight by capitalising

of one year ago, when he reneged on his "no new taxes" pledge of the 1988 presidential campaign. All the polls indicated his popularity was in a free fall. Then came the Gulf war, and his popularity skyrocketed.

There are other reasons no one should make too much of Mr. Bush's travails just yet: the power of incumbency that keeps a president effortlessly in the public eye, and a Republican advantage in the electoral college, which decides the presidency under the indirect U.S. voting system.

Because of voting patterns that are fairly well entrenched in certain states, a Republican presidential candidate is all but assured from the outset of more than half of the 270 state-by-state electoral votes needed to win the White House.

French institute promotes knowledge of Arabic culture

By Katia Sabet

DAMASCUS — It's a bonding process that started decades ago and continues stronger every year. The actors are intellectuals from the Arab World and Europe who meet at IFEAD (Institut Français d'Etudes Arabes de Damas — French Institute for Arabic Studies in Damascus) to do research and publish books.

The story of IFEAD emphasises the close ties that were established by French scholars captivated by Arabism, ties that have withstood the pressures of political and military upheavals.

Christian Velud, a French researcher and historian at IFEAD who has been in Syria for 11 years, explained that the institute was created when the League of Nations approved the French mandate for Syria in 1922. It was originally called Institut Français d'Archeologie et d'Art Musulman, its founder, General Gouraud, being interested in the study and conservation of the country's heritage of folk art and antiquities. Gen. Gouraud also

provided assistance to the archaeologists coming out to excavate in the plains of the Euphrates. At the time the institute occupied the legendary Palace El Azm, a gem of Damascene architecture, where they stayed until 1946.

In 1930, with the arrival of Louis Massignon, an internationally known scholar, the institute changed its focus, and today, under the leadership of Jacques Langlade, it is regarded by Arabists as one of the most prestigious research centres.

Mr. Velud, who is in charge of publications for IFEAD, knows both the people of Syria and the Arabic language. For three and a half years he lived with an Arab family in Deir Al Zor, a bedouin village near the Euphrates in the northeastern part of the country. "A fascinating life, unforgettable people," Mr. Velud says of his experience undertaken while he was working toward a doctoral degree in history. There is a cultural and historical bond between France and Syria that goes back well beyond the period of the French mandate, Mr. Velud

notes, adding that the French researchers at IFEAD continue a long tradition of love and respect for Arab culture, art and civilisation.

Today IFEAD has greatly expanded: The staff has grown from 20 to 50, the facilities have been enlarged and a modern information service has been completed. Books and periodicals are published in French and Arabic. The number of researchers has increased. There are two French resident researchers, one Syrian resident researcher and six researchers who are supported by grants. According to Mr. Velud, during the past 16 years IFEAD has become a magnet for scholars who specialise in the Arab language, and students come from all over Europe.

The IFEAD library contains more than 50,000 volumes stacked on rolling shelves. It is the largest private library in the Middle East, with volumes in Arabic, French and other languages. The lecture hall is open to all and is very popular among Syrian university students.

Noting that publishing is very important in spreading a culture, Mr. Velud says that IFEAD issued its first volume in 1930 and has just published its 140th book. Since 1930 it has also published the Bulletin of Oriental Studies; it has also begun to publish bulletins on specific topics, for example, one on the ancient city of Aleppo, another on Arabic grammar. Bulletins are in the works on Damascus and on Mesopotamia.

Asked whether the French colonial presence in Syria, which lasted 26 years, had left bitter memories, Syrian researcher Serab Al Atassi explained that the passage of time had erased negative feelings. "I think that people have taken the time that they needed, even those who lived during the mandate. It was understandable that the period would be denied. But now it is accepted for what it was, a historical reality," she added.

"My impression is that the mandate is part of a forgotten past," Mr. Velud commented. "The period has

been ignored, and up to now little research has been done. In France it is only in the past four or five years that some research has been done. This is because France has always covered up its colonial adventures, and the mandate was immediately put in that category. Even in Syria there is no serious research or historical analyses of the period, only "memoirs" of political figures. There is also, not to put too fine a point on it, the problem of archives."

"French archives from overseas, in this case Beirut, that are kept in the city of Nantes, were opened for study only about two years ago. That explains why all studies that have been done on the French mandate in Syria were until now the work of Anglo-Saxons who had access to the files of the British Foreign Office and the Colonial Office. This gap is in the process of being closed, however, and many French graduate students are beginning to take an interest in the mandate period."

The work of Anne Regourd, a young research fel-

low at IFEAD, offers another perspective on Arabic studies. Ms. Regourd fell in love with the Middle East after hearing a call to prayer one evening in Cairo. In seven years this young woman, who had just begun to study for her master's degree in philosophy and could not speak a word of Arabic, has become a respected scholar, specialising in the astrology of the first centuries of the Hegira. (The Hegira, or Hijrah, marked the beginning of the Muslim era in 622 A.D., when the Prophet Muhammad went from Mecca to Medina).

All scholars at IFEAD agree that having chosen Damascus as a location for the institute places them in a privileged area in terms of the richness of the local culture and traditions. Although many avenues are still unexplored, they take pride in the warm relations between scholars of different nationalities who come here to look together at the past and build relations based on a better understanding of the Arabic culture — World News Link.



Christian Velud is in charge of publications at the French Institute for Arabic Studies in Damascus which fosters cultural and historical bonds between Syria and France.

Smithsonian plays down aviation's role in World War I

WASHINGTON (AP) — Forget what you heard about the Red Baron or watched in movie dogfights pitting Fokkers and Pfalz against Spads and Sopwith Snipes. The Smithsonian Institution does not think aviation contributed much in World War I.

The National Air and Space Museum opened an exhibit on Nov. 13 designed to show that World War I flying wasn't the big deal it has been made out to be.

"I think it is safe to say it is the first time the museum is trying to debunk the myth," said Dominick Pisano, lead curator for the exhibit "legend, memory and the great war in the air."

"The basic idea is to set the record straight what aviation in World War I was all about," Mr. Pisano said. The idolising of aces in that war was brought on in part by the news media, movies, magazines and books, he said.

To drive home his point, Mr. Pisano stops a tour of the exhibit at a Pfalz D. XII which, he said, logged more hours flying in Hollywood

aviation films than it did during the war.

It starred in the 1930 version of the dawn patrol, with a fictitious red colour scheme and a skull and crossbones on the fuselage. Then Howard Hughes

"I think it is safe to say it is the first time the museum is trying to debunk the myth, legend, memory and the great war in the air. The basic idea is to set the record straight what aviation in World War I was all about."

bought it for Hell's Angels. And finally, it flew in Men With Wings. The Smithsonian unkindly refers to the wartime history of this German plane as "obscure."

World War I aviation, thought of as dogfights and derring-do and the pursuit of

infamous German flying ace Manfred von Richthofen, lived through pulp magazines, comic books and model-making in the minds of untold numbers of children. "Curse you, Red Baron,"

Such idolatry made him a hero to many a youngster in the 1920s and '30s. Reflecting that fact, the Smithsonian included a typical boy's room in the exhibit, complete with a BB gun, socks on the floor and an airplane model hanging from the ceiling.

World War I, which pitted Germany and its allies against France, Britain, Russia, Italy and the United States, cost more than 11 million lives.

The end of that war, Nov. 11, 1918, was called Armistice Day until revisionists, wanting to make it include other wars in which America took part, renamed it Veterans Day.

Because the war was fought chiefly in the trenches, "only flyers seemed capable of moving where they wished — free from the mud, barbed wire and anonymous mass death of the trench war," the ex-

hibit notes. Hanging from the ceiling of the exhibit is a Spad 13, the dominant airplane flown by French and American pilots, its two .30 caliber Marlin machine guns still looking menacing.

Some famous planes are represented only by scale models, including the Jeannin Stahltaube (Steel Pigeon), a German plane designed for

reconnaissance. But some

aviators carried pistols and others dropped aerial darts on the enemy.

Ground troops envied the flyers, but theirs was no easy task. The pilots were into combat with little training, causing Cecil Lewis of the Royal Flying Corps to say in 1916: "Fourteen hours it's absolutely disgraceful to send a pilots overseas with so little

flying. ... My God, it's murder."

Some fledgling pilots, the exhibit points out, never even had driven an automobile before they learned to fly. Instructional aids? The Royal Flying Corps used posters to illustrate some of the hazards of flying.

Among those was the Lewis machine gun with a drum of only 47 rounds,

mounted on the pusher-engine F. E. 8 (for British fighter experiment). To change the drum during combat, the pilot had to release the airplane's controls, remove the empty drum and replace it, all the while fighting the blast of the slipstream.

Mr. Pisano said: "We are really trying to make you understand how the airplane was used."

the peanuts cartoon character Snoopy echoed time after time.

Buffs won't like it, but the fact is that many of the Red Baron's 80 kills came not in dogfights but through stealth and surprise. That did not stop Floyd Gibbons from

The unsanitised version

The Gulf Between Us: The Gulf War And Beyond

Edited by Victoria Brittain
Virago Press, London 1991, £5.99 (paperback)

Time alone will tell how long it will take to pick up the pieces in the post-war Middle East. As hundreds of thousands of Yemenis, Jordanians, Palestinians, Egyptians, Pakistanis, Bangladeshis etc. come to terms with their forced return to joblessness, often homelessness and poverty in their home countries, sickening details begin to emerge about the war which displaced them and shattered their lives. Unabashed Pentagon officials admit that the burial alive of 8,000 Iraqi troops in their trenches was a carefully planned exercise. There is no pleasant way to kill people, they tell us. No doubt the parents of the 300,000 children who Oxfam tells us are now facing starvation in Iraq would agree.

How different it all seems from the sanitised version of the war we saw on television, where the bombs were smart, the explosions looked like the fourth of July and not a drop of blood besmirched our screens. Only later did we learn that just seven per cent of the explosives used were actually "smart" bombs, and 70 per cent of the 88,500 tonnes of explosives dropped on Iraq and Kuwait in fact missed their targets. Only later did U.S. officials begin to give their estimates of between 100,000 and 200,000 Iraqi dead in a war which we were encouraged to believe was remarkable for its lack of casualties.

BOOK REVIEW

The Gulf Between Us is a collection of essays which brings together some of the voices who opposed the war to

provide a bitter but thoughtful retrospective. Edited by Victoria Brittain, whose furious but reasoned introductions set the tone for the rest of the book, the collection brings together intellectuals from both the Arab World and the West.

Alexander Cockburn and Andrew Cohen examine the West's business and arms-trading relationship with the Iraqi regime. The Iraqi exile Fahih Abd Al-Jabbar traces the roots of the invasion of Kuwait in one of the best accounts of recent Iraqi political history available. Rear Admirals Eugene J. Carroll and Gene R. La Rocque look at the conduct of the war itself, concluding that "the goal of rendering Iraq a political and economic nullity goes far beyond any U.N. resolution." Fadia Fagir looks at the war through the eyes of Arab women. And Edward Pearce of The Guardian rails against "the energies of a dozen new paper editors flying in formation" with consummately elegant venom.

The collection is not perfect. It was clearly assembled too early to include an assessment of the treatment of the Palestinians in post-war Kuwait, or to look at the further disasters that befell Iraqi Shiites and Kurds when they took the West's advice and rose up against Saddam. Abbas Shibliak's contribution underestimates the sheer desperation of the political plight of the Palestinian movement in the aftermath of the war. Barbara Rogers' piece on the U.N. would benefit from less idealism and more hard-headed analysis of the roots and record of the organisation.

Yet as a record of a piece of history which was so fleeting at the time but which could have such an incalculable effect on the lives of millions for several years to come, the book is invaluable. It is a must for anyone who felt cheated by the version of this horrifying episode which most of the media gave us — Middle East International.

By Simon Edge



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A sense of smell

By Maha Addasi

They say it is a gift when they refer to the senses. I understand it when they refer to sight, touch, hearing, and taste, but, for the life of me, I cannot figure out why the sense of smell is a gift.

I am sure the perfumers of the world, who have the "golden" noses and who make their fortunes out of mixing and mingling aromas, have already figured out the advantages of this particular sense, but sometimes all it takes is to walk into an elevator, or a crowded room in winter to start cursing your nose.

Why in winter? Because when the heating is on and the windows are closed, there is no longer any ventilation to rid a condensed room of the 'silent but deadly' after-effects of bean meals that become very popular in that season.

Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer immediately comes to mind, and new light is shed on the incident with the other reindeer. I think they were jealous of Rudolph's red nose because he probably had a cold and could not smell.

The only way to save people such pain and suffering is to spread the word on hygiene, and explain its advantages and its absolute necessity. The only price is what is spent on water and soap. But how do you spread the word?

You cannot, for example, go up to an "unhygienic" person and say: "Come, come," as you pat him or her on the shoulder with a ten-foot pole, "let's go to the supermarket and buy you some soap and deodorant."

Nor can you take a "portable" sink and demonstrate on the side of the road how to turn a faucet for water. Although I am very tempted to do just that. I feel that if each of us goes to one such person and reveals to him or her the advantages of cleanliness we could get results of some sort.

But, I fear that people could tip the balance towards the other extreme. You may know the type. I am talking about the ones who seem to have suffered temporary insanity in the presence of a perfume bottle and ended up drenching themselves with a particular perfume. You know, the ones who walk around engulfed in a cloud of perfume. And if they walk fast enough it whiffs behind them in a trail which might resemble a loyal ghost. We do not want too many of those around either, especially that they saturate your sensory cells in such a way that it seems like you may never ever smell anything other than that perfume for the rest of your life.

I suspect though that smelling was important to detect



danger at one time, especially with fire and smoke. But with everyone burning dried trees in their backyards, smell became a false alarm.

Honestly speaking I cannot be convinced that having an ability to smell has much purpose. But sometimes when I smell a mean lasagna cooking, or a chocolate cake in the making, I have second thoughts.

Clumsy

By E. Yaghi

Lunchtime and Clumsy heard growls rumbling in the stomachs of her family. "OK, I know you're hungry," in answer to their complaints, "dinner's almost ready."

Within a few minutes she triumphantly plopped a steaming platter of fried fish in the middle of the table and proceeded to arrange dishes in their places and prepare ice to serve 7-Up. As she fought with an ice tray, half its contents jumped out at her and hurtled to the floor. She stepped aside looking dismayed simultaneously crunching some ice to splinters beneath her feet. She quickly bent over to pick up her latest disaster and consequently bumped her head on the table, bouncing the fish out of the platter.

Her head throbbing, she threw herself down on a chair and commenced to eat with her husband and children. "Ummm, this fish tastes good," her husband said as he bit into tender morsels trying to encourage her.

Her children ate on without comment in dumbfounded silence, apparently engrossed in their food and oblivious to the world. Suddenly Clumsy noted the shocked expressions on her family's faces as she slowly slipped from their view below the horizon of the food. Her husband, by now accustomed to her repeated mishaps jumped up and looked over the corner of the kitchen spread and said, "Whatever happened to you? Are you all right?"

At first Clumsy hadn't realised what happened to her either or how she could sink down into the kitchen floor but as she fumbled over herself to struggle off her upturned chair, she grasped what had befallen her and assured her husband with, "Yes, yes, I'm OK. One leg of the chair came over the drain and fell through."

"One of these days you're going to break that drain! Change places with your son so this won't happen another time!" her husband ordered.

"Oh, so you're just worried about the floor and not about me? What if I get broken, then what will you do?" she retorted. He grumbled on obscure answer.

At first she flushed with embarrassment, then anger, but as she sat down and resumed eating, it was difficult for her not to break down in laughter and join the silent snickers of her children. Evidently Clumsy was born with two left hands and two left feet. Her life has been a series of accidents. Like the time she was walking past the butcher shop with her husband. She eyed the butcher carefully to see if he was observing her in case she slipped and fell. She tried to make herself as inconspicuous as possible but of course she ended in a contemptible splat on her hands and knees right in front of his shop so he couldn't help but notice her.

"Did you have to fall right here?" her husband growled and then, "Get up, get up, get up before anyone else sees you!"

But this was only one of many, many falls. There was also the time she was late to her dentist appointment in the city centre.

To make up for lost time, she rushed down the sidewalk dragging one of her unlucky sons behind her when all at once she landed in a hump in the middle of a throng of people. "Are you hurt?" one asked, and "let us help you!" another offered.

In spite of her hasty downfall and probable sprains and scratches, she scrambled to her feet, her face as red as a beet and kept going, muttering to her son in defence of her actions: "Well, one good thing about my fall is I'll probably never see any of those people again or if I do, they won't remember me!"

"Mom, how could they forget you?" her frustrated son wailed.

Clumsy is famous for walking on everyone else's feet too, for bumping into people, doors, chairs, and even moving cars and for saying the wrong words (such as thank you instead of you're welcome) on the telephone or to guests. And when she flops into the back seat of a taxi, the edge of her dress can often be seen dragging outside the taxi door like a flag at half mast.

Many of Clumsy's children have inherited her natural gift of being gauche. Before her youngest daughter married, she went through cups and dishes as though they were tissues, but she was particularly impressive whenever her future mother-in-law came to visit and she just had to break a dish or cup while her groom's mother stared in what appeared to be horrified disbelief. Miraculously the daughter married and her mother has been assured that she is happily carrying on her duties of chipping dishes and cups here and there in her husband's home.

But back to Clumsy. Often she valiantly offers to fix cookies or cake for her beloved children. "How about baking you a cake for your birthday?" or "Would you like me to make a batch of cookies?"

"No thanks, Mom, your cakes look like a street in repair, full of bumps and holes," or "Mom, when you make cookies, all the cookies melt into one and the whole thing looks like one huge cookie. We need a hammer instead of a knife to break them apart and in fact, we can't tell where the cookie ends and the tray begins! We'd rather do without!"

Well, there must be something Clumsy does right, but her family's still searching for her hidden endowment. They can be certain that Clumsy is always the one who goes out the door market, "Entrance" and enters through the "Exit." She also invariably bumps into displays at supermarkets and sends goods crashing to the floor which she swiftly replaces under the cold glaring stares of "better than thou" customers.

Meanwhile, that femme fatale Clumsy carries on with her life which has more downs than ups as she strives to break the record of the "clumsiest person of the year" in Guinness Book of Records where competition happens to be fierce. Good luck Clumsy but beware of that drain in your kitchen floor and don't go slipping through or you might be swept away in a river of waste and turn into a mutant cockroach!

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, Nov. 21

8:30 The Simpsons

Bart Simpson fails his courses and has to take them again the next year, which he does and passes successfully.

9:10 NBA basketball playoffs

10:00 News in English

10:20 Movie Of The Week

One-Eyed Jack

Starring: Marlon Brando

A classic cowboy story based on the life of an infamous outlaw.

Friday, Nov. 22

8:30 Coach

The Marion Kind

Coach Haiden tries his best to mend sore relations between his assistant, Luther, and his best friend.

9:10 Shakespeare's Macbeth

10:00 News in English

10:20 W.I.O.U

Labour Relations

Channel 12's staff go on strike asking for better wages, and the director of the station try to carry on with the news, regardless of the hazards involved.

Saturday, Nov. 23

8:30 Totally Hidden Video

9:00 Encounter

9:30 Life On The Land

10:00 News in English



Angela Lansbury stars in *Murder She Wrote* Sunday at 9:10

10:20 Feature Film

Jaws The Revenge

Sunday, Nov. 24

8:30 The Golden Girls

9:10 Murder She Wrote

Mirror, Mirror On The Wall

Another mystery books writer from New York visits Jessica in Cape Cave. A murder is committed and both ladies, try to help the sheriff.

10:00 News in English

10:20 This Man, This

anarchy which alarms the Americans.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Gabriel's Fire

I'm Nobody

Self esteem is a spark that keeps people going... when that spark is lost everything else, falls apart.

Tuesday, Nov. 26

8:30 Who's The Boss

Four Alarm Tony

Tony's childhood dream of becoming a fireman comes true when he becomes a volunteer for the Fairfield Fire Department but his enthusiasm lands him in hot water.

9:10 Our House

10:00 News in English

10:20 French Feature Film

The Doctor

Wednesday, Nov. 27

8:30 Kate And Allie

Kate and Allie consult a marriage counsellor to sort out the strained relations between them.

9:10 Cosmos

10:00 News in English

10:20 Equal Justice

False Images

The D.A.'s office prosecutor a murder case, an armed robbery case and helps "Sugar", a witness in a previous case, to get a job.

Charles Tellier and the Frigorifique

Charles Tellier invented a system of preserving food using the cold. He is responsible for the first long-distance transport of refrigerated food. The story of his ship the "Frigorifique" has become history.

By Jean Chabrier

PARIS — Charles Tellier was born in Amiens in 1828. He spent his childhood in Normandy where his father ran a cotton mill. From an early age, he was in contact with technology. This lively, imaginative youth was interested in all kinds of scientific subjects and his studies took him in the direction of an engineer of the 19th century, that is towards informed dilettantism.

He invented a time-and-kilometre meter for cabs, a solar-energy motor, instant brakes for trains and many other things. About the middle of the Second French Empire, he thought up a grandiose scheme for underground pipes in Paris for the purpose of distributing the energy of compressed air everywhere. He thus met Baron Haussmann and then Emperor Napoleon III who considered the project as being premature and advised him to do research on solving the problem of industrial refrigeration.

Charles Tellier started research on ammonia. He turned it into a liquid, condensed it and evaporated it. His early machines worked perfectly and were a success. But he was not a man of financial means and he ended up in the debtors prison. After that, he returned to his research and set up a "cold-machine" factory. He delivered chilled drinks in Paris and these were a great success at the Imperial Fête. He also noticed that it was enough to refrigerate meat, and not to freeze it, to be able to keep it for a long time.

After the 1870-71 war, when he had perfectly mastered the technique of refrigeration, he declined the offer to go and set up refrigeration plants in the United States and set upon the big-

gest adventure of his life: transporting food preserved by refrigeration over big distances. He set up a company and bought a ship which he called the Frigorifique. He refurbished it, installing refrigeration machines in the hold and cold stores insulated by cork, straw and tarred canvas.

The revenge of the Frigorifique

In 1876, the Frigorifique set sail from Rouen, laden with all kinds of meat. A crowd of guests from Paris attended the departure. The ship stopped over in Lisbon and then arrived in Buenos Aires at Christmas. It was greeted with enthusiasm as the cargo had been perfectly preserved and the newspapers considered the fact as a great event. A banquet was organised at which the guests ate fillet of beef or mutton chops 105 days old. They

were delicious and the scheme proved a great success. For Argentina, it meant the possibility of exporting its huge surplus of cattle which was far in excess of local needs and for Charles Tellier it meant the promise of an excellent business deal.

Alas, once again he was not a moneyed man. The impatient shareholders fought and the company broke up. For better or for worse and all his life long, always coming up against financial difficulties, Charles Tellier continued his activities.

The extraordinary adventure of the Frigorifique has to be told. For a long time, this astonishing tale filled the sailors off the coasts of Brittany and England with terror. The event lasted a day and night in winter, off Ouessant, which is one of the worst places in the sea in the world, in a thick, squally, pea-souper.

Naturally, there was no radar, only the sound of foghorns which seemed to be coming from all directions and blasted at regular intervals with each vessel trying to warn the others of its presence. Suddenly, there was a collision. An English coal-ship hit the Frigorifique right

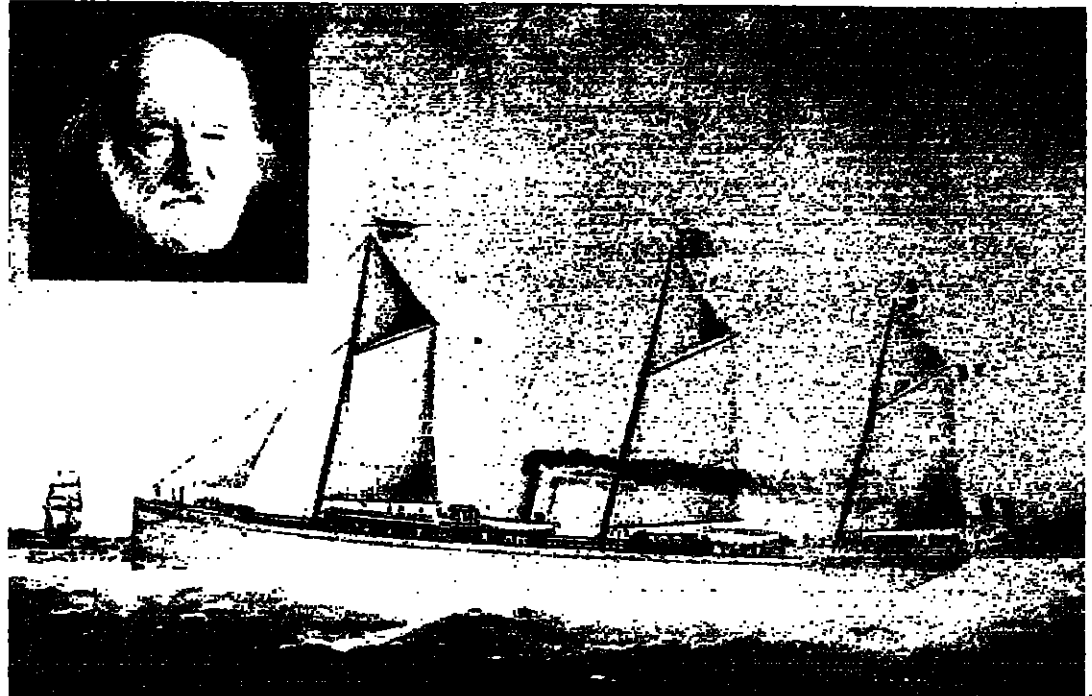
in the middle. The crew abandoned the sinking ship and managed to climb on board the English vessel.

Witnesses confirm that, during the night, the ghost of the Frigorifique, looming out of the fog, tried to sink them. The third time was a direct hit. Screaming in terror and panic, the two crews saw the Frigorifique taking its revenge. Feeling the deck slipping away from under their feet, they leapt into the life-rafts and, full of fright, headed for the coast where the tale of their shipwreck spread, becoming more and more irrational.

The scientific explanation is that the water-tightness of the chambers and the density of the ice had caused it to float. With the engines working, the rudder blocked and the current carrying it along, it went in big circles.

In his lifetime, Charles Tellier had not managed to make the big fortune such a brilliant inventor deserved, but, in 1912, shortly before his death, he was paid homage by being awarded the Legion d'Honneur, at a huge meal where only products sent, in homage, from all over the world and kept by refrigeration, were served. He was 84.

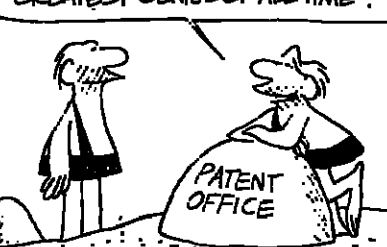
— L'Actualite en France.



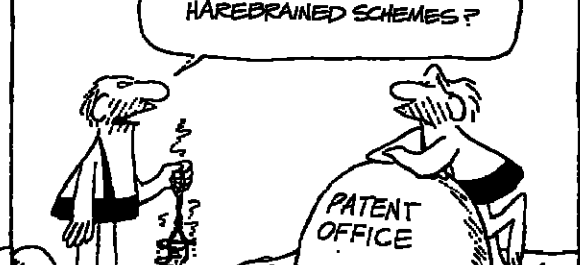
The Frigorifique, the ship responsible for the first transport of refrigerated food, was invented by Charles Tellier (insert).

B.C.

THE GUY THAT FIGURES OUT A WAY TO HARNESS FIRE WILL BE THE GREATEST GENIUS OF ALL TIME.



GOT ANYMORE HAREBRAINED SCHEMES?



The Rolling Stones rock on — larger-than-life

By Michael Ellis
Reuter

TORONTO — Mick Jagger's famous mouth threatens to swallow whole audiences as he rips into songs like I Can't Get No Satisfaction and Get Off My Cloud.

Fans of the Rolling Stones long used to seeing their heroes as dots on the stage of vast stadiums can now enjoy the veteran rockers pounding out the hits on movie screens eight storeys high.

The Stones have made a film designed for huge Imax screens, up to 10 times the size of conventional screens.

At The Max, filmed over the final nights of their steel wheels-urban jungle tour last year, opened last month in Los Angeles, at four locations across Canada and in Holland, Belgium, Austria and France.

Fans are treated to giant images of the Stones grinding out 15 of their hits at stadiums in Turin, East Berlin and London.

The Imax screen produces an "In-Your-Face" effect, extending the image beyond a viewer's peripheral vision so the edges of the screen seem to disappear.

"It's amazing to see your own life boot 30 feet long and stuff like that," Stones guitarist Keith Richards told reporters at a press preview in Toronto.

The Toronto-based Imax Corp., which has cinemas in about 75 cities in 15 countries around the world, departed from the space and nature films usually shown at theme parks and museums to bring the Stones to the screen.

The Stones decided to make the film for the mammoth screen after seeing

some of those space and nature movies, executive producer Andre Picard said.

"They were very aware that it was a new kind of film and a new kind of music experience as well, and all the way through ... I was sending them cuts as we did each song," Julien Temple, creative consultant and location director, said in an interview from Los Angeles.

Temple previously directed several videos for the Stones, including the controversial Undercover. He was also responsible for the Sex Pistols' The Great Rock And Roll Swindle.

The release of At The Max, shot at a cost of \$10 million, was delayed by about a month for further work on the sound mix to satisfy Richards' demands, Temple said.

"Keith is very close to that

music and doesn't want anyone to hear it unless it's as good as it can be."

Temple said he edited the film in a manner "that kept the excitement of the music ... as well as allowing the space for the Imax images to satisfy the eye."

The Stones have been in several movies, including the concert film Gimme Shelter in California in 1969, when one fan was stabbed and beaten to death by a member of a Hell's Angels motorcycle gang.

"As a musical unit, they're probably better" than they have ever been, Temple said.

"There's also a wonderful kind of psychological drama and musical drama in that band between him (Jagger) and Keith. They're kind of these polar opposites that give a central kind of charge

of energy to the sense of them as a band beyond the music."

Jagger wanted to avoid the "rockumentary" cliché of a rock 'n' roll film, of the roadies tuning guitars behind stage and the band playing pool and video games.

"It's not a documentary about a tour or being on the road or how it works or what happens when you go back to the hotel," Jagger said at the Toronto press preview.

Aside from the opening minutes showing drummer Charlie Watts tap-dancing back stage and guitarist Ron Wood taking a few puffs of a cigarette, viewers are presented with 90 pulsating minutes of rock 'n' roll.

Seven cameras were positioned to show the band from dozens of angles — from a helicopter over London's

Wembley Stadium, on stage as Richards' left hand tears across his guitar strings with silver skull ring flashing, or 20 rows back in the audience as a sea of waiving arms fills the bottom third of the screen.

"Music films need an energy in the cutting because you're illustrating an entity of a band playing rhythmically interlocking parts," Temple said. "So you want to cut and see what Keith is doing and then Mick's answering vocal."

Temple said he finds rock films on conventional-size screens boring, but the Imax screen adds a new dimension he would like to explore further.

"Overall, I think it delivers a punch that no other concert film has managed ... it's almost better than a concert itself."



Mick Jagger

China — the last frontier of rock and roll

By Andrew Browne
Reuter

PEKING — Their last show in California was in the lobby of a Hyatt Hotel.

Playing the discotheque at Peking's Great Wall Sheraton gets them no nearer to rock stardom, but the up-and-coming Los Angeles band Pegasus has found unexpected fame in China, rock-'n'-roll's last great frontier.

The first professional Western rock band resident in China, Pegasus recently became the first Western group to make a recording in the country.

A five-city promotional tour is planned with television appearances. Solo albums will follow, and perhaps a concert at Peking's Capital Sports Stadium.

"It's in an embryonic stage," said keyboard player

Stephen Hanuman of China's rock scene. "It's wide open."

Sex and drugs and rock-'n'-roll — hard rock, at least — are officially off-limits for Chinese youth.

This nation of 1.1 billion people, with an estimated 250 million cassette decks, has only one real rock star, the elf-like rebel Cui Jian. His face adorns countless T-shirts, but his lyrics of veiled dissent rattle the Communist authorities.

Taiwan love songs and the tiny "canto-pop" sounds of Hong Kong sell millions of cassettes in China. Rock is a different matter, and so too are Western bands.

Pegasus found that out the hard way.

In August, Pegasus were all set to leave their hotel for the Capital Stadium, where they were topping the bill in a show being televised live across the nation, when news

came that authorities had banned them.

Their songs had been vetted and approved — every word of every lyric — but politics got in the way.

Among several improbable reasons given: Officials were piqued that the United States had donated so little to a Chinese flood relief appeal, and they were worried that members of the audience might dance in the aisles.

Dancing is taboo at Chinese concerts: It threatens control.

Drummer Eddy Betancourt has shared the limelight with the likes of James Brown and Natalie Cole, and he still looks pained when he relates the story of the cancelled concert.

"We're respectful of the country we're in," he said philosophically, and added — with no pun intended — "We don't want to rock the boat."

Long-time Western residents of Peking who lived through the crackdown on the Democracy Movement in June, 1989, say that if anything the city's rock scene has improved since then.

"Rock-'n'-roll nights" featuring Cui Jian, or the all-girl line-up Cobra, or the hard rockers Tang Dynasty, have become a regular feature of Peking's night life.

One theory goes that Chinese authorities, with blood on their hands after crushing the student-led Democracy Movement, are reluctant to alienate young people further by clamping down on the music scene.

But the concerts in small clubs and bars — sometimes in the swanky restaurant Maxim's — draw mostly foreign students, journalists and diplomats. No more than a handful of Chinese turn up.

Still, these are early days for rock music in China. The Chinese fans with their shoulder-length hair and clad in studded leather jackets are on the far fringes of society.

A disastrous tour by the British rock duo Wham in 1985f gave Peking residents their first, and last glimpse of a major Western band. Wham and the Chinese government were not ready for each other.

Paul Simon is one of the few Western artists to come to China since then, appearing last month in the relatively liberal southern city of Canton.

For now there is Pegasus. Mellow pop sounds have made Pegasus acceptable to Chinese ears, and may even turn a modest profit for the band if sales of its soon-to-released cassette take off. The four-piece band with

Hanuman and Betancourt, Keith Brock on lead guitar and Cynthia Manly as vocalist, have trebled business at the Sheraton's Cosmos Club where they play six nights a week for a mostly local audience.

They stick to ballads and cover versions of songs by artists such as Phil Collins, Lionel Richie and Sinead O'Connor — the same sort of material that features on their cassette.

On a recent mid-week evening in the Cosmos Club, Cui Jian was hanging out with his girlfriend and members of his band, and local paparazzi were buzzing round the stage, getting an angle on singer Manly's raunchy strut.

"I was always saying," said Betancourt dryly, "you've got to get out of L.A. to get noticed."



Paul Simon is one of the few Western artists to come to China.

The Commitments — from nowhere to something and how to hold it

By Paul Majendie
Reuter

DUBLIN — A dozen unknowns were plucked from the mean streets of Dublin by film director Alan Parker to star in The Commitments, a riotous tale about forming a pop group that has become an international hit.

The film won rave reviews in Britain and the United States and the soundtrack album has made it into the top ten on both sides of the Atlantic. But what of the cast a year after they were propelled from obscurity to stardom?

Angeline Ball, one of the raunchy singers in the group that brought soul to working-class Dublin, is the first to admit the truth of the maxim that we can all be famous for 15 minutes, but really need to work at it on a long-time basis.

Before flying off to try to land a film part in Los Angeles, she said it for them all.

"One minute I was in the Braemar Rooms (a Dublin bar), the next I was working in a film with Alan Parker and gigging in the Universal amphitheatre with Bette Midler and meeting all these huge stars. You never know, I always say, tomorrow I could be working in a fish factory."

But the down-to-earth Dubliner could hardly be accused of being starry-eyed at the thought of trans-Atlantic fame.

"The Americans are all into this image thing, they're very health conscious. Here it is more character-based," she told the Irish Times.

"There's beautiful women in America but there's hot air between their ears. The Americans are the kind of people you want to stare at all night but the Irish are the kind of people you want to spend your life with."

With unemployment soaring in working-class Dublin and emigration often the only option, young dreamers turn to music as the hoped-for short cut to fame and fortune.

Parker was astounded to find that up to 1,000 bands play in and around this sprawling city of one million people.

Most, like The Commitments, break up within a year but all dream of following in the footsteps of U2, the Irish rock group who are now international stars.

Robert Arkins, who played the Mr Fixit manager Jimmy Rabbitte in the film and is now working on his own album, put it bluntly.

"It doesn't mean a thing being successful in Ireland but in America, Irish bands have more chance of making it than anyone. Americans claim to be half Irish even if they don't know where Ireland is," he told Britain's Daily Telegraph.

The chances of the band coming together again are virtually nil, admit publicists for the record and film companies.

Reviewing what they have been up to since making the picture a year ago, film publicist Lisette Cohen said in London: "I have never known such interest being shown in a picture so long after it has been finished and released."

"Most of them now are pursuing their acting or singing careers. Only Michael Aherne has gone back to doing what he did before — being a civil engineer. The chances of them getting together are very slight. They are all doing their own thing."

"Maria Doyle has got her own black velvet band with her husband and they have got an album coming out soon. Branagh Gallagher has gone out to the states with Angeline to pursue her acting career. Dick Massey is playing with his band, Glen Hansard has a single coming out shortly."

Andrew Strong, the beefy 16-year-old lead singer of The Commitments could end up a star. He has signed a record contract and is producing a solo album in the United States.

"I have just come back from Los Angeles. They all love him out there. Nobody his age has got a voice like that. He's working with top people like Lamont Dozier (of Motown fame)," said John Hughes of Beacon Records in Dublin.

Mustang Sally, with Andrew Strong's soaring soul vocals, is now being released as a single from the hugely successful soundtrack.

Hughes said "the chances of The Commitments getting together again are very slim. If they could form their own band, they would be huge in Britain, Australia, the States."

"We are at the moment putting together a Commitments II album with another dozen tracks from the film. There is a tremendous demand for it."

Saving the film heritage — a race against time

By Pierre-Albert Lambert

PARIS — Under the auspices of the National Cinematography Centre (CNC), the Film Archives Department, which employs about fifty people, is in charge of preserving the reels of film which it owns or ones which are deposited with it, as well as anything to do with the seventh art: posters, scripts, models, etc. It is one of the most important organisations of its kind in the world.

"The essential of what we have received is there: Everything which has survived excessive use, fires and irresponsible destruction: A priceless treasure," one of those in charge explains. It is kept on two neighbouring sites west of Paris, Saint-Cyr and Bois d'Arcy, in the former pillboxes of a fort which was used as a gunpowder factory last century and in ultra-modern buildings.

They house nearly a million reels of film in a controlled environment with 50 per cent humidity and a temperature of 12 degrees centigrade. Maximum security is ensured with fire-doors, anti-explosion vents, etc.

The Film Archives Department was created in 1969, thanks to Andre Malraux who, at the time, was General Charles de Gaulle's minister of culture. He had made the former gunpowder factory available to Henri Langlois (a fanatic of motion pictures who was to become the founder of the "Cinematheque" film archives in Paris) to enable him to store the old films which he unearthed by rummaging through attics, cellars and barns. (Once, at the back of a stable, he came across a film of "the visit by the president of the French Republic to Algeria", made

in the 20s).

For a long time, movie films were made on nitrocellulose. The nitrate film had been developed in 1892 by the American Thomas Edison. Its mechanical properties made it easy to adapt for projectors. But nitrocellulose, which is a highly explosive material, bursts into flame at the least spark. What is even more serious is that it slowly starts to decompose as soon as it is made. It has a lifespan of only 50 years.

The colour in the pictures starts to fade and the film gradually becomes a kind of smelly jelly. Then it turns into a powder, releasing dangerous gases. A means to stop this decomposition has never been found and it is contagious for neighbouring reels. That is why 60 per cent of silent full-feature films and 25 per cent of talkies made before the World War II have been lost for ever.

In 1955, the use of nitrate for making films was banned in France. They were substituted by acetate or "safety films", characterised by their non-inflammability, their good mechanical resistance and their quite good chemical and physical stability. They have a lifespan of about three centuries.

Emergency plans

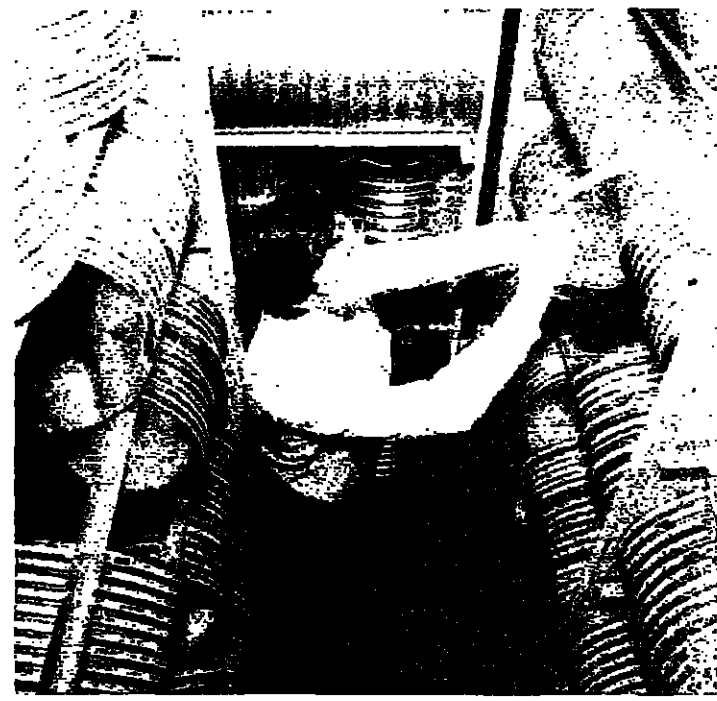
In the near future, acetate films are going to be replaced by polyester films (an American patent) whose stability is estimated at 500 years. They are already used for medical and industrial X-rays but the extension of their use will require the installation of new projectors, which will take time.

Meanwhile, a real race against time is on, at the laboratories in Saint-Cyr and Bois d'Arcy, to save 247,000 reels of nitrate films, representing 20 million metres of film, by copying them onto stable film using highly developed equipment.

Over the last fifteen years, three million metres of film have been saved from the injuries of time. From now, a million metres of nitrate films will have to be saved a year, by 2005, the fatal date from which countless reels will be damaged beyond recall. But it is out of the question to save everything, as Henri Langlois ardently wished. Millions of metres of nitrate films, mainly off-cuts or duplicates, will irremediably return to dust.

Because this has to be done, quickly and because the operations of restoration and preservation are complex and delicate, the technicians at the Film Archives Department have to be selective. They take various factors into account: The physical and chemical state of the film, the absence of an already restored copy in other archives in France or abroad, the interest of the film for the cinema heritage, etc.

It is a never-ending task. In order to help carry out this work successfully, the Ministry of culture has launched an "Emergency Plan for Saving the Film Heritage". Staffing levels at the Film Archives Department have been increased as well as its budget. In 1990, it amounted to 17 million francs. In 1991, it has risen to 26 million francs. This increase is to be continued for, as the minister decreed: "We must absolutely save everything that deserves to be saved" — L'Actualite en France.



How to save 20 million metres of perishable film?

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- 9- Suburban Commando
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Drug treatment stops development of heart failure — study

Daniel Q. Haney
Associated Press

ANAHEIM, California — The first time, a medical treatment has been shown to stop the development of congestive heart failure, a discovery that could benefit 1 million Americans, according to a major study released Monday.

Researchers found that a variety of drugs called ace inhibitors can prevent — at least temporarily — the start of heart failure symptoms in people with damaged hearts.

Last August, the same team disclosed that the treat-

ment can significantly improve the survival of people who already suffer from heart failure, a major killer that afflicts about 2 million Americans.

Now, the latest results show that the same medicine can forestall the development of heart failure in the estimated 1 million people who are at high risk of the disease because of injury to their left ventricles, the heart's main pumping chamber. Such damage commonly results from heart attacks, chronic high blood pressure and heart inflammation, among other causes.

"The key issue is: Can we prevent people from getting heart failure? We found an approximately 37 per cent reduction in the development of heart failure" among those who took ace inhibitors, said Dr. Salim Yusuf of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

The five-year study was conducted on 4,228 people at 83 hospitals in the United States, Canada and Belgium. Dr. Yusuf presented the results at the annual meeting of the American Heart Association.

Half of the people in the study took Enalapril, one

form of ace inhibitor, while the rest got placebos. The study's findings included:

— Among those getting the ace inhibitors, 436 developed heart failure, compared with 638 in the comparison group.

— Taking ace inhibitors reduced the heart attack rate by 23 per cent.

— There were 247 deaths from heart disease in those taking the drugs and 282 deaths in the comparison group. This difference, though encouraging, was considered not quite large enough to be statistically meaningful.

The risk of being hospitalized was 36 per cent lower in those taking the drug.

"This is good news," commented Dr. Eugene Braunwald of Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

"When doctors have patients with heart disease who have a high chance of going into heart failure, they should give high consideration to using ace inhibitors before overt failure occurs."

The latest study is the first large-scale research to show that any treatment can prevent the development of heart failure.

Dr. Braunwald is conducting a similar study that is limited to people whose heart damage results solely from heart attacks.

The latest study was restricted to people who had significant damage to their heart muscle. As a result, no more than 35 per cent of the blood was pumped out of their hearts with each beat.

Each year, heart failure is the primary cause of 40,000 deaths, and it contributes to 230,000 others. It is the leading reason why people over age 65 are hospitalized.

In the study, the death rate

quadrupled after people went on to develop heart failure.

Just how long the treatment will ward off heart failure in people with damaged hearts is still unclear. However, Dr. Yusuf said he suspects it will typically be nine months to a year.

"It is not a panacea," said Dr. Yusuf. "For the first time, we have a drug that does do something, but people should not go away with the idea that this is some kind of magic and we don't need anything else."

Ace inhibitors relax the blood vessels. They work by

interfering with Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme. This protein causes blood vessels to tighten and narrow, forcing the heart to work harder as it pushes blood throughout the body.

During heart failure, the heart is not strong enough to pump blood adequately. As a result, fluid builds up in the lungs and limbs. Symptoms include shortness of breath, pain and fatigue.

Ace inhibitors are a relatively new class of medicines that are already widely used to treat high blood pressure.

Australian scientists develop new genetic test for diseases

SYDNEY (R) — Australian scientists have developed a new genetic test that enables prospective parents to find out in less than a day the chances of passing on genetic diseases such as cystic fibrosis to their children.

The process known as "geneco technology" has been developed by the Queensland University of Technology for Molecular Biotechnology.

"Current tests are expensive and time consuming, as they need one technician and take between three to five days to complete," the university's dean of science, Professor Tony Webber, said.

"The new geneco technology can take about 20 tests per day with one technician operating," Prof. Webber said.

"But our next stage of development is to go fully automated, which could potentially process up to 1,000 tests per day," Prof. Webber said.

Genetic diseases, sometimes called hereditary dis-

eases, are caused by an irregularity of the genetic structure of the chromosomes, he said.

"Now the geneco technology can accurately diagnose the potential of parents to pass on genetic diseases to their children," he said.

Australia's most common life-threatening genetic disease is cystic fibrosis (CF) which primarily affects the lungs and digestive system.

About one person in 2,000 will have cystic fibrosis passed on to them, Prof. Webber said.

Until recently it was a disease for which there was little treatment and its victims rarely lived to adulthood, he said. With developments in modern medicine, the life expectancy of victims had been extended considerably.

"But the geneco technology offers a very real hope that future generations can be spared the tragedy of watching their children suffer with CF," Prof. Webber said.

Migraine sufferers have twice the risk of stroke

By Paul Raeburn
The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, California — Men who get migraine headaches are twice as likely as others to have a stroke, providing possible clues to the causes of the disorders, doctors said Monday.

"We're not implying that migraines themselves are causing stroke, but rather that migraines may be a marker for increased risk of stroke," said Dr. Joann E. Manson, one of the authors of the study.

She emphasized that this was a preliminary finding that points to a need for further research. She also said the findings would apply to women as well as men.

Dr. Seymour Diamond of the Diamond Headache Clinic in Chicago, the nation's oldest and largest private headache clinic, said the finding was "very significant and very important."

"It shows that people with migraines have more unstable or fragile blood vessels," he said.

The study suggests that using Aspirin or other drugs to

prevent migraines might help prevent strokes, Dr. Diamond said.

"If I was a migraine sufferer, I would talk to my physician," he said.

The study, directed by Julie E. Buring of the Harvard Medical School in Boston, was presented recently at the annual meeting of the American Heart Association. It found a statistical association between migraine headaches and strokes. It did not directly address the questions of what might be causing the disorders.

But Manson said the study suggests that the blood vessels of the people at risk may contract and expand more than the blood vessels of others.

Such changes in blood vessel size are linked to migraines and can cause strokes if the blood vessels constrict too much, she said.

Another possibility is that the high-risk individuals are prone to more clumping of blood cells called platelets, which help to form clots. The most common form of stroke, called ischemic strokes, occurs when clots impede

blood flow in one of the arteries nourishing the brain.

In the Harvard study, men with migraines were found to have 2½ times the risk of ischemic stroke. They had lower risks of other forms of stroke, so their total risk of strokes was slightly lower, about double that of others.

The study was based on analysis of the health history of 22,000 U.S. male doctors,

who were between ages 40 to 84 when the study began in 1982.

Dr. Manson, who is not a headache specialist, said she did not believe that prevention of migraines would help prevent the risk of stroke.

Dr. Diamond disagreed.

"If we can cut down the number of attacks, there's going to be less damage" to the blood vessels, he said.

He said he has chronic changes in blood vessels in the brains of people who suffer from migraines. "It shows that people with migraines have more unstable or fragile blood vessels," he said. It is consistent with the new findings.

Migraine headaches are more common in women than men, and it will be important to confirm these

results in women, Dr. Manson said. She said, however, that there is no reason to believe the findings will differ in women.

Interestingly, the migraine sufferers in the study did not show an increased risk of heart disease, meaning that the abnormality may occur only in the brain's blood vessels, not in those that nourish the heart," Dr. Manson said.

'Short people may have increased risk of heart attacks'

By Daniel Q. Haney
The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, California — Add one more injustice to life's unfairnesses: Short people are more likely to suffer heart attacks.

"The taller you are, the less is your risk of heart attack," said Dr. Patricia Hebert, who presented a study on the subject Monday.

For every extra inch of height, she found, people's heart attack risk goes down 3 per cent. This means that someone 5-foot-10 is 9 per cent less likely than someone 5-foot-7 to suffer a heart attack.

"I wish I was taller," quipped 5-foot-9 Dr. Michael R. Rosen of Columbia University.

However, he and others

suggested that shorter folks pay more attention to reducing their risk by concentrating on factors under their control, such as cholesterol and blood pressure.

"Hopefully, short people will exercise more and eat better to get around it that way," said Dr. Rosen.

The study was released at the annual scientific meeting of the American Heart Association. It was conducted by Dr. Hebert and colleagues from the physicians' health study at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

In the study, men under 5-foot-7 had about 70 per cent more heart attacks than those over 6-foot-1.

Just why this is so is unclear. However, short people might be at higher risk be-

cause their blood vessels are skinnier, so they are more prone to becoming clogged.

The researchers cautioned that just being tall is no guarantee of escaping heart trouble. Loflier folks should still watch their diets and blood pressures, among other things.

The study was based on a survey, begun in 1982, of the health of 22,071 male doctors from across the United States. The primary goal was to check the effects of taking Aspirin, which turned out to reduce the risk of a heart attack by 44 per cent.

However, the researchers used the huge amount of data collected to review other links with heart disease.

Several factors increase the risk of heart attacks. The

principal ones are smoking, high cholesterol, diabetes and high blood pressure.

The researchers found that shorter men were more likely to be overweight and to have high cholesterol and blood pressure. But even when these factors were taken into consideration, their risk of heart attacks was still higher than taller men's.

While the Boston study is the largest to examine the question, several smaller reviews also have found suggestions of an association between shortness and heart disease. Among these is one that found a similar link in women.

"These findings appear to be generalizable to women as well as men," said Dr. Hebert.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Eastern potentia
- 2 Storm
- 3 Wind
- 4 Eurythm's daughter
- 5 Actress
- 6 Dodge
- 7 Foray
- 8 Line
- 9 Enter
- 10 Just Wild
- 11 Moby Dick
- 12 Come to an
- 13 Old Nick
- 14 Large scale
- 15 Assembler
- 16 Smiles

DOWN

- 1 Almost soundless
- 2 Goddess of the seasons
- 3 Wasteful
- 4 Fireplaces
- 5 Jeanne d'Arc
- 6 Some actors
- 7 Slip away
- 8 Straight
- 9 Gum surface
- 10 Ideas leading
- 11 Elliptical
- 12 Give brother
- 13 Theatrical
- 14 Minute groove
- 15 Elaborate
- 16 Thruway
- 17 Giants

Diagramless 18 X 18, By Marsha J. De Wit

- ACROSS
- 1 Classified items
- 2 Mile entrance
- 3 Always
- 4 Change residence
- 5 Eulogies
- 6 Fountain
- 7 Seager
- 8 Plan suggested
- 9 Bear ingredient
- 10 Collection

DOWN

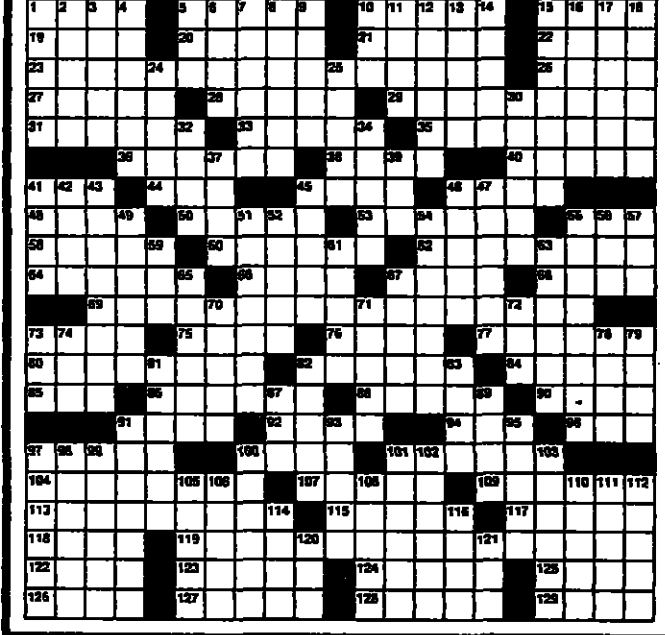
- 1 Love greatly
- 2 Piece of turf in golf
- 3 Pluses
- 4 Partisan
- 5 Baking place
- 6 Encouraged
- 7 Plumes in
- 8 Advance
- 9 Black units
- 10 Willow
- 11 Place for bees

- 40 Old West group
- 41 Math form
- 42 "Norme"
- 43 Or dog
- 44 Terse's Abba
- 45 Enraged
- 46 Neclum
- 47 Mammal
- 48 Kind of acid
- 49 Snow at the moon
- 50 Priest of old
- 51 Sar, shrine
- 52 Poissim
- 53 hydrocode
- 54 Get it all
- 55 Come to an
- 56 Yugoslavian
- 57 Point Opden
- 58 Linked up
- 59 Freudian terms

- 52 Americana: var.
- 53 Sub weapon
- 54 Moguls
- 55 Containing a
- 56 Group group
- 57 Sural
- 58 Indirect
- 59 Produced
- 60 Electrical malfunction
- 61 Deny
- 62 Soap plants
- 63 Jellied garnish
- 64 Pender for one
- 65 Sculpted place
- 66 New Deal letters
- 67 Dr. go.
- 68 Thred for office
- 69 Acting org.
- 70 Foot
- 71 Black Sea port
- 72 Viol for short
- 73 Picher
- 74 Tennis term

- 23 Black-and-blue
- 24 Test
- 25 Looks
- 26 Have a mail
- 27 "A partide in a"
- 28 Some up
- 29 V.P.
- 30 Cole or Turner
- 31 Little Blighm
- 32 Call on the phone

- 32 Spread one's
- 33 Roofed
- 34 Not as much
- 35 Crimen
- 36 Snapper
- 37 Afternoon social
- 38 Boonish one
- 39 Prayer finale
- 40 Got astir



Last Week's Cryptograms

1. When Halloween fun has gone, witch will switch from her broom to her broom.
2. In choosing a location for a big garbage dump, be mindful that one man's solution is another man's pollution.
3. Handsome dream major leads head loaded with jealous bates twisters.
4. Method actor's emotion was so realistic, he almost drowned in his own tears.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. ZCQRQZTO MQPL CLEQXY IUHLG, "TOO MUCH TAX AU DOTS ETHELY ITZE, TAK DOLARS UP RE."
2. EARP EGGFRI LY HGGI EANEPRC UGLY LUNCH GQIXRU LP CCGIXRU.
3. QNR RYRUTUX LNC, E HRAZBQ NEUPHSG PZ BFPAL TL LRAYTUX EL E SEYTLM BEUPRG ZPA QMR PSI ATUNG-ITUN BEAUTYES.
4. VOE VR MRCFCE SCNZETTVS VZE FYEW RK Y MCSYJ XSSJ KORN KROOE.

- 50 Can
- 51 Little
- 52 Fleety fruit
- 53 Top of a house
- 54 Parried
- 55 Dn
- 56 Puler stake
- 57 Acme
- 58 Chest sound
- 59 Bar one
- 60 Dover's state

New procedure zaps children's hearts to stop dangerous irregular beats

By Daniel Q. Haney
The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, California — Doctors are zapping children's hearts with bursts of radio-wave energy to cure potentially lethal irregular heartbeats that afflict about 3 per cent of the population.

Several studies presented this week at the annual meeting of the American Heart Association show that this procedure is quickly spreading to major hospitals as an alternative to surgery or life-long medical treatment.

"This has emerged as a new therapy to provide definitive treatment," Dr. MacDonald Dick II of the University of Michigan said.

The treatment, catheter ablation, uses high bursts of energy to correct a variety of inborn abnormalities that cause disabling and sometimes life-threatening heart

palpitations.

The most common of these ailments, called Wolff-Parkinson-White Syndrome, afflicts about 1 per cent of the population. Similar conditions affect an additional 2 per cent.

These people have extra electrical circuits in their hearts' pumping chambers that cause unnecessary heartbeats. Symptoms can include dizziness and fainting.

During the mid-1980s, doctors learned that they could thread a skinny tube called a catheter into the heart and obliterate the circuits with a burst of electricity. While the technique initially seemed to cure the ailment, doctors later learned that the procedure destroyed too much tissue, causing a variety of complications, including cardiac arrest.

The technique fell from favour. But last year, reser-

chers began experimenting with radio-wave energy. This approach, which burns the unwanted tissue, requires much less energy, can be done while the patient is awake and appears so far to be safe.

"It's the treatment of choice for Wolff-Parkinson-White Syndrome," said Dr. Barbara J. Deal of Childrens Memorial Hospital in Chicago.

However, some experts are still sceptical and say more follow-up is needed before doctors can be sure it works as well as it seems.

"It's still in its infancy," said Dr. Jeffrey P. Moak of Texas Childrens Hospital in Houston. "We don't know the long-term implications. It has a lot of potential, but we have to be careful."

Dr. Moak said the new approach has been tried in

about 4,500 people, including 175 children.

Until the advent of catheter ablation, surgery was the primary way of controlling the heartbeat irregularities when medicines were ineffective.

The radio-wave approach is also used for neurosurgery but has not been specifically approved by the Food and Drug Administration for treating hearts.

Dr. Robert Lemery of the Montreal Heart Institute said that using the radio-wave catheters is difficult. While many doctors can treat 60 per cent of cases effectively, reaching a 90 per cent success rate requires a high level of skill and experience.

"Positioning the catheter is extremely critical," he said. "The heat that is transferred is very localized. It's very, very sensitive."

Heart drug linked to sudden death

ANAHEIM, California (AP) — One of the oldest and most widely used heart drugs significantly increased the risk of extremely sudden death in people who had survived a heart attack, a study shows.

Researchers also found that a surprisingly high number of heart attack survivors — about one in three — later died of extremely sudden

heart rhythm disorders within 60 seconds.

One million Americans survive heart attacks each year, and about 25 per cent of them are treated with the drug Digitalis, said Dr. Arthur Moss of the University of Rochester Medical Centre.

His study found that Digitalis increased the risk of the

sudden heart rhythm disorders.

"It was a very significant risk," Dr. Moss said at the annual meeting of the American Heart Association.

Dr. Moss did not say that patients who use digitalis should now be taken off the drug. He said further study is needed to identify which patients faced the risk of sudden

death from the drug.

"Sudden cardiac death" is usually used to describe severe heart rhythm disorders that lead to death in less than an hour. They are most often a consequence of damage to the heart from heart attacks.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, killing about 500,000 people a year.

هكذا من الأهل

Pluralism strengthens Palestinians'

(Continued from page 1)

Front of the Liberation of Palestine shared a podium with members of the Palestinian delegation to Madrid at more than 30 public meetings that took place in the occupied territories.

During public "hearings," and debates on the pros and cons of the negotiating process were held, said Dr. Erekat, who participated in 11 of the 30 meetings. While most parties opposed to the talks participated in these "hearings," Hamas, the main Islamic opposition party, also raised questions to the delegates. Asked where he thought the negotiations would realistically lead the Palestinians, Dr. Erekat, the most outspoken of the Palestinians at the Madrid conference, said the talks would lead to a transfer of authority, which will be a path to sovereignty from a Palestinian point of view. "I think what the Israelis are talking about is a transfer of authority to individuals. What we want is sovereignty and there is nothing in between."

Dr. Erekat said he did not expect that there would be a drastic change in Israeli attitude. "Israel has been rejecting the new shape of the world. They have a mental rejection as far as the changing role of Israel as a strategic ally of the West in the region. It will take them time but they will realise at the end that they have to live side by side to a Palestinian state," Dr. Erekat said.

Dr. Erekat said the Israeli society is "still a society which has a mechanism of integration of fear. In the end they will in all likelihood 'follow the leader' and revert to the hard theory when it comes to national decisions pertaining to peace."

Dr. Erekat said he did not yet see a movement that counters the "revisionist Zionism" that is the basis of Israeli politics vis-a-vis the Arabs and Palestinians. "It is probably easier for the Israelis to react to war than to peace. It is a spurious society. I don't see any genuine movement in that society in terms of telling Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, wake up."

But Israelis, as all other peoples in the world, must accept the "realpolitik" which is defining the new world order, Dr. Erekat said. "Our definitions and positions cannot be defined by what we want and what we don't want," he said.

The symbolic offering by Palestinian youth in the occupied territories of olive branches to Israeli occupation soldiers "caught the Israelis off balance. They did not know how to react."

"At the end they started shooting people with olive branches. And now they are in order to burn olive branches," Dr. Erekat said.

The recent debate within the opposition Labour Party in Israel to push to revoke the Israeli law which bans anyone living under Israeli authority from talking to members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was not seen by Dr. Erekat as very significant.

"You have to keep in mind that the law is stupid, and there are some circles in the Labour Party who are admitting that it is stupid and wrong," he said. Although the move may have partly been influencing internal Israeli affairs, Dr. Erekat said, most of the changes taking place within the Israeli political circles had more to do with internal calculations than external ones. As Israeli elections approach

in 1992 the government is still using settlements and Soviet Jewish immigration to make a fait accompli to create facts on the ground, he said.

"The Helsinki accords speak of the right of people to move and give people the right to choose. The Soviet Jews have been denied the right to choose. Between 1980 and 1989, over 92 per cent of the Soviet Jews who wanted to leave the Soviet Union chose not to come to Israel," Dr. Erekat said.

But the international community has actually come to Mr. Shamir's aid to help realise his dream of creating his "greater Israel" by closing its door to Soviet Jewry. "Why did the U.S., Canada, the Europeans decide to close their doors and thus the Soviet Jews were 'forced' to go to Israel," Dr. Erekat asked.

The Soviet-Jewish issue is being used by Mr. Shamir to blackmail countries for more money on humanitarian grounds and to strengthen settlement policy, he said. At the end "there will be settlements and immigration and if they do not have money there will be neither," Dr. Erekat argued.

"Those who argue that a solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict must be based on land for peace and at the same time give Shamir money and people I think they are contradicting their own basis, they are destroying their own arguments," he concluded.

Palestinians

(Continued from page 1)

to be closer to the Syrian position that the multilateral talks, which would focus on regional water resources, environment and disarmament, would be futile unless Israel starts withdrawing from the occupied territories.

A Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) delegation is also due to head for Moscow on Friday for talks with Mr. Shevardnadze.

Nabil Shaath, a senior advisor to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, said one of the key Palestinian objectives was to ensure that Moscow makes Soviet Jewish emigration to Israel contingent on an Israeli assurance that none of the emigres would be settled in the occupied Arab territories.

A halt to Israel's continued settlement activity in the occupied territories is one of the key demands of the Palestinians ahead of the next round of talks with the Jewish state.

Mr. Shaath also said the Palestinians felt more comfortable dealing with Mr. Shevardnadze than Mr. Pankin, who was relatively new to the issues of the Middle East while his successor has had previous experience in tackling the complexities of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Shevardnadze has won world respect by playing it straight

By Alan Cooperman
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Through all the zig and zags of Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms, Eduard Shevardnadze has walked a straight line toward peace and human rights, never letting ideology block the way.

He helped end the cold war and worked to bring freedom to Eastern Europe and slash nuclear arsenals, surviving unrelenting political attacks by hardliners who called his initiatives a betrayal of communism.

"If we had not disposed of ideological or 'class' interests — as we used to call them — in our foreign policy, it would have been difficult to find a common language with our (Western) partners and... overcome the military antagonism," he told a Soviet TV interviewer last week.

Western governments hailed his return to the Kremlin as foreign minister on Tuesday, saying the move would raise international confidence in the Soviet government.

The courtly 63-year-old Shevardnadze is known in the West as a pragmatic, flexible diplomat.



Eduard Shevardnadze

But he has spoken often of the importance of principle in foreign affairs.

"One of the principles of new thinking accepted the world over is freedom of choice. We recognised this right, and it led to the formation of a new Eastern Europe," he said in the TV interview, his last public comments before Tuesday's announcement.

"If we had not recognised it, if we had not assisted in the formation of new free states in Eastern Europe, we would now be on the verge of a third world war."

When Mr. Gorbachev shrank from free market economic reforms and clamped down on restive republics one year ago, Mr. Shevardnadze resigned rather than be associated with those policies.

After the abortive Aug. 18-21 hardline coup, the Soviet president said he wished he had paid more attention to Mr. Shevardnadze's dramatic warning that a dictatorship threatened.

Mr. Shevardnadze had been one of Mr. Gorbachev's closest advisers from the dawn of perestroika in 1985, but he quickly distanced himself from the Soviet leader after resigning last Dec. 20.

He founded a reformist think-tank, wrote a book and helped create a democratic reform movement, a coalition that was preparing to challenge the Communist Party for power before the coup.

After the putsch, the party collapsed and the democratic reform movement faded, overrun by events.

Mr. Shevardnadze told the Associated Press in September that his "dear friend" Mr. Gorbachev had paid too much attention to short-range tactics of political survival and too little to long-term reform strategies.

During Mr. Gorbachev's six years in power, he "was constantly manoeuvring. And along the way he allowed himself to get dragged too far to one side or another," Mr. Shevardnadze said. "He enjoyed manoeuvring too much. This is the root of his constant fluctuations and indecisions."

Despite such outspoken criticism, Mr. Shevardnadze has gradually moved back into Mr. Gorbachev's inner circle since the coup, joining the president's new political advisory council and helping to negotiate the withdrawal of Soviet troops from the newly independent Baltics.

"The threat from the right is still there and it could intensify," he said in the interview. "In view of the aggravation of the social and economic situation in the country, the worsening of material conditions... right-wingers can gain a certain degree of popular support."

Syria

(Continued from page 1)

responsible punished." Before the alleged Libyan connection surfaced, Western investigators had named the Syria-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) its prime suspect. That group denied responsibility.

U.S. and British authorities have not made clear whether they plan to issue more indictments in the bombing.

Algeria has also called for caution and restraint over the Western accusations against Libya.

A foreign ministry statement said while Algeria remained horrified at the Pan Am blast and the explosion aboard the UTA airliner in 1989, it noted "with satisfaction" the Libyan decision to "set up an inquiry after 'preliminary conclusions had put the responsibility for these attacks on Libyan citizens.'"

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and French President Francois Mitterrand Tuesday discussed the charges against Libya, French government sources said. But the sources said Mr. Mubarak was not acting as an intermediary between France and Libya during the talks at the presidential palace.

Turkey said Wednesday that the U.S. had given it documents to back its charges against two Libyans.

But the Turkish Foreign Ministry said an independent court had to investigate and establish the role of the two men in the disaster.

"The United States has given us documents and information that has led them believe two Libyan citizens are responsible for the crash," spokeswoman Filiz Dincmen said.

Israel

(Continued from page 1)

... not only (with) generous gifts of the Jewish community around the world but a liberal investment of capital by entrepreneurs from all over the world."

In a speech defending Israel's immigration policies at a Jewish fund-raising meeting, Mr. Shamir also indirectly criticised Italy, Britain and France for their recent handling of refugees from Albania, Vietnam and Africa.

"When you see how some countries treat immigrants and refugees — whether it be Italy or Britain or France — we can all be proud as Jews of what we are doing for brethren," he said.

The head of Israel's opposition Labour Party called on the government Tuesday to freeze settlements and accept territorial compromise to achieve real peace.

Shimon Peres, leader of the Labour Party, criticised Mr. Shamir for his repeated refusal to freeze Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Let's see what Mr. Shamir proposes," Mr. Peres told a Labour convention. "Autonomy. How do we achieve it? With settlements. Peace. How do we achieve it? by annexation."

"Labour must say with a clear voice... to reach autonomy we need to freeze the settlements. And to reach peace we need to compromise on territories," Mr. Peres added.

"I say territorial compromise, not withdrawal as the Arabs demand," he told the gathering.

Israel has offered Palestinians in the occupied territories autonomy for a transitional period during which a permanent settlement would be discussed.

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Currency	NEW YORK CLOSE Date 19/11/91	TOKYO CLOSE Date 20/11/91
Sterling Pound*	1.7995	1.7975
Deutsche Mark	1.5985	1.5993
Swiss Franc	1.4180	1.4184
French Franc	5.4575	5.4690**
Japanese Yen	129.83	129.40
European Currency Unit	1.2760	1.2740**

* USD The STG.
** European Opening at 8:00 a.m. GMT

Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.75	4.93	4.87	5.00
Sterling Pound	10.50	10.50	10.37	10.51
Deutsche Mark	9.00	9.31	9.31	9.31
Swiss Franc	7.56	7.87	7.87	7.66
French Franc	9.62	9.56	9.56	9.43
Japanese Yen	6.31	6.18	6.00	5.66
European Currency Unit	9.75	9.87	9.87	9.87

Precious Metals			Date: 20/11/91		
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm ^o	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	363.05	6.95	Silver	4.08	0.088

* 21 Karat

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6790	0.6610
Sterling Pound	1.2194	1.2255
Deutsche Mark	0.4241	0.4262
Swiss Franc	0.4782	0.4806
French Franc	0.1242	0.1248
Japanese Yen*	0.5237	0.5263
Dutch Guilder	0.3764	0.3783
Swedish Krona	0.1162	0.1168
Italian Lira*	0.0561	0.0564
Belgian Franc	0.02056	0.02066

* Per 100

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.7720	1.7780
Lebanese Lira*	0.0769	0.0775
Saudi Riyal	0.1807	0.1813
Kuwaiti Dinar	—	—
Qatari Riyal	0.1840	0.1849
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2170
Omani Riyal	1.7380	1.7460
UAE Dirham	0.1840	0.1849
Greek Drachma*	0.3710	0.3770
Cypriot Pound	1.4870	1.5055

CAB Indices for Amman Financial Market*

Index	18/11/91	Close	19/11/91	Close
All-Share	124.28		124.56	
Banking Sector	104.82		104.94	
Insurance Sector	126.55		126.52	
Industry Sector	153.39		153.80	
Services Sector	135.37		136.65	

* December 31, 1990 = 100

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G-7 proposes Soviet aid package

MOSCOW (R) — Senior officials from the Group of Seven (G-7) leading industrialised nations met Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev on Wednesday after proposing a major new aid package to his republics.

The deputy finance ministers were expected to discuss the emergency assistance — estimated by G-7 sources to total about \$7 billion — with Mr. Gorbachev and at a later session of talks in Moscow with Soviet and republican leaders.

"There are basic proposals from the G-7," Soviet Prime Minister Ivan Silayev told reporters after a meeting on Tuesday at which the measures were outlined to nine republican leaders. The aid proposals include a deferral of some repayments on Moscow's foreign debt of about \$70 billion and a bridging loan of

\$1 billion to help overcome liquidity problem, G-7 sources said.

Details were still being worked out. G-7 delegates and the Soviet Bank for Foreign Economic Affairs (Vneshekonombank) declined to comment.

Moldovan Prime Minister Valeriu Muravsky said after Tuesday's talks that a deferral of repayments until January 1, 1993, had been offered plus unspecified new credits.

An aide to Mr. Silayev described the measures as positive but questions still hang over the ability of the former Soviet republics to muster the hard currency resources necessary to honour foreign debt obligations.

Mr. Muravsky said the G-7 — the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Britain, Canada

and Italy — wanted to be convinced that the republics were capable of implementing "a real and solid programme of reform."

The aid will help to pull Vneshekonombank, which services Soviet foreign debt, back from the brink of defaulting on repayments, and free resources to get the country through a winter of hardship and shortages of the most basic goods.

Nine of the 12 republics cleared the way for the package with an agreement to assume responsibility for the entire Soviet foreign debt.

Soviet delegates said the three which did not sign — the Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan — could join the accord later after ways of sharing debt and assets are decided.

The G-7 proposals suggest that Germany and some other Euro-

pean countries have dropped objections to a deferral of Soviet debt repayments. Germany holds the bulk of Moscow's foreign debt.

A G-7 official in Paris said this month that a deferral of principal repayments was being considered but interest would continue to be paid.

The Basle-based Bank for International Settlements might serve as the channel for a bridging loan, the source said.

Soviet liquidity problems have worsened recently and foreign creditors have been seeking assurances that any new loans will be repaid.

Vneshekonombank says it is confident of being able to honour its obligations despite shortages of hard currency, estimated this month at up to \$1.7 billion.

U.S. trade deficit reaches new high

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. trade deficit widened to \$6.79 billion in September, the poorest showing in eight months, as Americans' appetite for foreign goods outpaced a rebound in exports, the government said Tuesday.

The Commerce Department said that the September trade deficit was 4 per cent bigger than a revised \$6.53 billion imbalance in August despite the fact that exports rose to their second highest level ever.

The Bush administration hailed the rise in exports as good news

for American manufacturers. But private economists were more downbeat, contending that slumping growth in some of America's major overseas markets spelled more trouble for a faltering U.S. economy.

Financial markets were not bolstered by the trade report, which showed a higher-than-expected deficit. The Dow Jones industrial average of 30 stocks plunged 41.15 points as investors expressed more fears about the durability of the recovery.

President Bush tried to bolster confidence by contending that the recession has ended and that sound underlying fundamentals, in the form of lower interest rates and falling inflation, should set the stage for a "good recovery" in the months ahead.

Still, Mr. Bush conceded that the economy is sluggish and, in a speech broadcast to a meeting of the Southern Newspapers Association, said, "I hurt when other people are hurting."

The September trade deficit, the highest since a \$7.37 billion trade gap in January, marked the third straight month that the deficit has gotten worse.

Exports climbed \$1 billion to \$35.43 billion, the second highest level on record, but the gain was offset by a \$1.3 billion increase in

imports, which rose to \$42.22 billion, their highest level in almost a year.

The trade deficit is the difference between imports and exports.

Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher said the increase in exports was a tribute to small and medium-sized American companies turning out "increasing quantities of high-quality merchandise for foreign markets."

He noted that so far this year America's trade deficit is running at an annual rate of \$65.7 billion, a 35 per cent improvement over last year, as the country heads for its first deficit below \$100 billion since 1983.

Private economists, however, said the recession should be given much of the credit for the sharp contraction in the trade gap because it reduced demand for imported goods.

Cray announces supercomputer

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — Cray Research Inc. unveiled a new supercomputer Tuesday that is four times more powerful than the fastest model the company has on the market.

"The Cray Y-MP C90 will enable scientists and engineers to solve some of the world's most complex and critical problems that, until now, couldn't be solved with available computational tools," said John Rollwagen, Cray Research's chairman and chief executive, said in a statement.

The company has six or seven signed orders for the \$30 million machine, and two more letters of intent to buy the new computer, said Charles Grassl, a Cray Research senior marketing analyst. A 16-CPU C90 has been running at Cray research since October, and customer shipments

are expected to begin in January, the company said.

Cray Research, based in Eagan, Minn., has traditionally catered to government research laboratories, but "we now have a lot more commercial customers than in the past," Mr. Grassl said last week.

"With industrial competitiveness, everyone is trying to do something better and faster," he said.

Christopher Willard, a computer industry analyst at Dataquest Inc., said the C90 is "another evolutionary product from Cray Research." "That's pretty exciting,"

"Every time another generation of supercomputer comes out, you've opened up another frontier of problems you can address with them," he said.

GCC to discuss Arab aid fund next week

MANAMA, Bahrain (R) — Ministers from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) will meet next week to finalise plans for a \$10 billion fund to channel aid to poor Arab states, officials said on Wednesday.

Abdullah Al Mugrin, GCC assistant secretary for economic affairs, told Reuters the fund was on the agenda of a joint meeting of GCC finance and foreign ministers scheduled at Kuwait next Monday.

Gulf-based economists say the ministers from Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates intend to resolve initial disagreement over how to share the cost of the fund, approved in Riyadh last April.

GCC finance ministers would first meet in Kuwait on Saturday

and Sunday, Mr. Mugrin said. The talks, which will also cover plans to unify customs tariffs, will pave the way for a GCC summit scheduled to take place in Kuwait from December 23-25.

GCC defence ministers met in Qatar on Wednesday to review joint Gulf security plans ahead of the summit.

Officials say all Arab states will eventually benefit from the aid fund but Egypt and Syria, whose troops were in the U.S. led alliance that drove Iraq out of Kuwait, would initially receive most of the money.

GCC officials believe much of the money their governments pumped into Arab states before the invasion of Kuwait was wasted. Iraq was one of the main recipients.

Ukraine to print own currency

KIEV, Soviet Union (R) — The Ukraine's fledgling national bank, pushing ahead with plans to introduce a national currency, has signed a contract in Canada to print banknotes, a senior bank official said on Wednesday.

Deputy Bank Director Alexander Savchenko said in an interview that the contract was signed three days ago and the name of the new Ukrainian currency would be fixed soon.

He gave no details of the contract but said it would enable the Ukraine to take out of circulation existing Soviet roubles and Ukrainian consumer coupons by mid-1992.

Mr. Savchenko said the decision to introduce a national currency to replace the collapsing

rouble had been delayed by pressure from Moscow but was now likely to go ahead because the Russian government was also planning its own money.

He said the Ukraine faced a serious shortage of deliveries of banknotes from the three Soviet factories which print them.

He said the lack of notes would make it difficult to pay wages in December. Virtually all Soviet workers get their wages in cash, leading to a massive demand for notes at a time of spiralling inflation.

The coupon system, introduced to protect local consumer supplies of food and staple goods, will be extended as a parallel currency as a stop-gap measure, Mr. Savchenko said.

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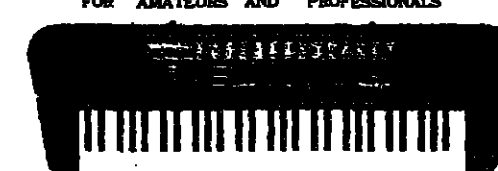
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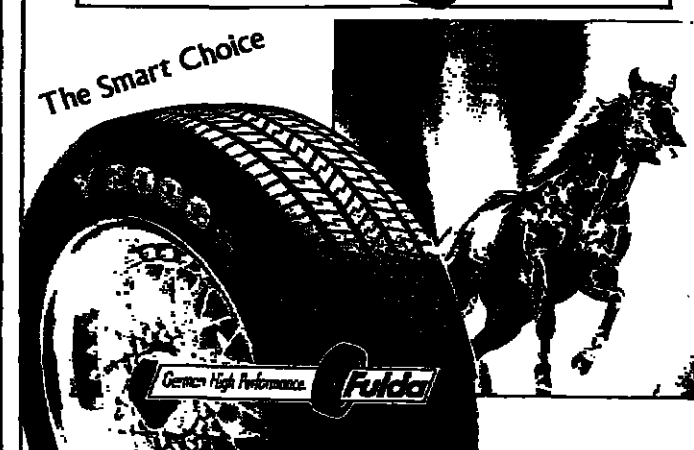
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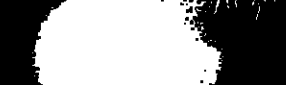
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Yugoslav army evacuates Vukovar hospital as fighting intensifies

BELGRADE (R) — The Yugoslav army evacuated 400 hospital patients from the fallen Croatian town of Vukovar Wednesday but turned its guns on strategic targets across the rebel republic with intensified ferocity.

The towns of Osijek and Zadar and villages around Nova Gradiska took with artillery barrages as the 13th ceasefire of the Yugoslav conflict crumbled after only four days.

Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic, who fears his republic will be drawn into the war, said he would ask for U.N. peacekeeping forces to be deployed along its borders with Serbia.

Tanjug News Agency said European Community (EC) monitors and the International Red Cross (ICRC) supervised the evacuation of the hospital in Vukovar which Croatia surrendered to the Serbian-led army Monday after a three-month siege.

But in Zagreb, the head of the ICRC mission, Marco Naselli, said his team was supervising the evacuation.

"That makes me laugh. I deny

it," he said, adding that the army was taking the wounded away on its own.

"We have absolutely no control over what is happening. We do not know which patients the army is taking or where they are going."

Four hundred sick and wounded, including 100 children, were taken from the destroyed town in a convoy of ambulances and buses along with 400 civilians who had taken refuge at the hospital.

Most of them were taken to Croatian-held territory to join refugees who left the town Monday.

Fighting appeared to have died out in Vukovar where a hard core of Croatian defenders initially refused to lay down their weapons and continued to clash with the army.

The army controlled access to the town which was still littered with the bodies of dead soldiers and civilians.

It also cordoned off the neighbouring village of Borovo Naselje where a photographer saw the bodies of 41 Serbian children who army sources said were killed in

an infant school by fleeing Croatian soldiers.

Soldiers said Croatian National Guards in the village, used to supply the fighters in Vukovar with food and ammunition, cut the throats of the children aged between five and seven and also axed adult Serbs to death.

The federal army claims that Croatian forces attacked Serbian civilians during more than four months of fighting since Croatia declared its independence from Yugoslavia.

Croatian radio said federal artillery pounded the Adriatic port of Zadar and nearby villages throughout the night.

Shelling of Osijek, the chief town of eastern Croatia 30 kilometres north of Vukovar, began at 5 a.m. (0400 GMT) and lasted throughout the morning.

The radio said at least two people were killed in the attack which also hit villages to the south of Osijek which has been the constant target during the war.

Croatian Defence Minister Gojko Susak visited the town Tuesday and promised that it would

not be abandoned like Vukovar.

"Serbia has the power to attack Osijek but not to conquer it," he said.

Croatia's ability to defend itself against the more numerous army's air and fire power is diminishing daily, however, and its military morale has been dealt a severe blow by the defeat in Vukovar.

The Croatian High Command accused the army of beginning a final offensive to capture more Croatian territory for Serbia. It already controls a third of the rebel republic.

"The final army offensive began on Nov. 16 during the ceasefire," a statement said. "It started with the fierce attack on Vukovar and is continuing on all fronts so that the borders of a mini-Yugoslavia can be drawn."

U.N. emissary Cyrus Vance continued talks with Croatian leaders about the deployment of a U.N. peacekeeping force in the war zones despite the heavy fighting. The U.N. has stressed that it will send troops only if there is a permanent ceasefire.



Dick Cheney

U.S., S. Korea discuss troop cuts

SEOUL (R) — South Korean and U.S. Defence officials, meeting Wednesday as dissidents staged violent anti-American protests, discussed trading U.S. troop cuts for North Korean assent to nuclear inspection, officials said.

Defence Ministry officials said they considered a Seoul proposal to barter U.S. troop withdrawals and a reduction in an annual joint troop exercise for Pyongyang's agreement to allow international inspection of its nuclear facilities.

The officials led by U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney and South Korean Defence Minister Lee Jong-Koo, met on the first of a two-day annual joint strategy review.

"We will of necessity focus on the major threat to security posed by the North Korean development of nuclear weapons," Mr. Cheney said in an interview with the U.S. Armed Forces Korea Network.

"The course of future developments would depend very much on what happens here in Korea and upon the situation with respect to the North," Mr. Cheney said.

The South Korean proposal would, in essence, offer the North Koreans a scaling down of the annual "Team Spirit" manoeuvres held each spring, a reduction of U.S. troops strength on the peninsula and international inspection of U.S. bases for nuclear weapons, the Seoul Ministry officials said.

If the North Koreans refused to allow inspection, the offer would be withdrawn.

As the officials met in Seoul's Defence Ministry building ringed by military police in battle-dress, at least 2,000 radical students staged often-violent anti-American protests on and near campuses across the capital and elsewhere.

Students hurled petrol bombs and fought with police at Kookmin University in Seoul, burning American flags as they demanded the withdrawal of U.S. troops.

Police arrested at least 70 students during a protest march on the luxury Shilla Hotel where Mr. Cheney is staying.

South Korean dissidents declared this week "anti-American week" in honour of Cheney's visit.

Shevardnadze is back 'on the barricades' for peace

MOSCOW (R) — Eduard Shevardnadze, drawn back reluctantly to the helm of Soviet foreign policy, said Wednesday he wanted to take his place "on the barricades" to preserve world peace.

He told the independent news agency Interfax after his appointment by President Mikhail Gorbachev that the situation was more serious than before the abortive coup in August.

"In these conditions, I could not just watch from the sidelines," he said. "We must take our places on the barricades to save peace, for an unstable Soviet Union is the biggest threat to peace for the whole planet."

Mr. Shevardnadze, 63, was in equally sombre mood in a brief telephone interview with the daily Komsomolskaya Pravda.

"There is no reason for congratulations, or commiseration," he said. "The moment has come when the fate is being decided not just of our country, but of peace on our planet."

The silver-haired Georgian resigned dramatically last December in protest at the growing power of conservatives in Mr. Gorbachev's government.

His return was welcomed in the West, which credits him with a key role in ending the cold war. President George Bush said he had a lot of friends in the U.S. leadership.

But Mr. Shevardnadze told Komsomolskaya Pravda the decision to return was harder than the decision to resign had been.

The Soviet Union, though still the world's second nuclear power, has continued to lose its authority among developing countries since December and its economic and political difficulties have damaged its prestige.

The 12 Republican governments are keen to establish some form of independent foreign policy and the Russian Republic has begun flexing its muscles in such

questions as the Afghan civil war and relations with Japan and the United States.

Mr. Shevardnadze told Interfax his first priority would be to visit republican capitals and discuss their new relationship.

His international and domestic prestige will strengthen the hand of the Soviet centre, which is trying to hang on to a role as coordinator of defence and foreign policy as Republican governments take more and more power.

"The process of division of functions between the union and republican organs is not yet finished. There are many question marks," Alexander Galkin of the Political Forecasting Institute commented.

"It is natural that the appearance of such a major personality as Shevardnadze should strengthen the position of the union Foreign Ministry."

"Shevardnadze is not only a powerful figure in international affairs but he is also pretty influential in internal politics."

Vitaly Churkin, appointed by Mr. Shevardnadze last November as head of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department, said the appointment would improve morale at the ministry, now renamed Ministry of Foreign Relations.

"He is very good at motivating people, which is something we need very much," Mr. Churkin said. "He is a charismatic diplomat who inspires people."

The State Council, the top Soviet organ since the coup, last week approved plans for outgoing Minister Boris Pankin for a major reorganisation of the ministry.

By Jan. 1, staff will be cut by a third to 2,500-2,700, several embassies and consulates will be closed, trade missions will be absorbed into embassies. The ministry will concentrate more on economic matters and trade.

Column 800000

New Beaujolais expected to be very good

PARIS (AP) — Expectations are high for this year's production of Beaujolais, the ruby-red French wine known as much for hype as for high quality. "The year 1991 is a very good one. It has a harmonious robe, with a very full flavour of red fruits," said Gerard Canard, director of the Inter-professional Union of Beaujolais Wines. "The good weather conditions were similar to 1987, considered one of the best of the century, so we have very high expectations," said Mr. Canard, who has headed the union for 31 years. This year's production is about 45 million litres, or close to 60 million bottles. Much of it has already been shipped to some 80 countries, where eager consumers wait to uncork their bottles at midweek Thursday, the time that tradition dictates Beaujolais may be opened. It is too early to know its market value, experts believe: it will reach about 2 billion francs (\$363 million), half of it generated overseas. Several large presentations of the new crop are planned in France, including at the two main train stations in Lyon, and at Paris' Orly Airport.

Caroline makes first appearance after year of mourning

PARIS (R) — Princess Caroline of Monaco, marking the end of more than a year of mourning for her late husband, made her first public appearance at a cathedral mass. The princess kept her face hidden behind a black veil during the mass, part of Monaco's National Day celebrations, in the principality's cathedral. The 34-year-old princess has shunned publicity since her husband, Stefano Casiraghi, was killed during an offshore boating race last October. She has spent most of her time with her three children.

Billy Idol charged with assault

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP) — Rock star Billy Idol was charged with punching a woman in the face after a dinner date, officials said. Idol was expected to surrender Wednesday to face misdemeanor assault and battery charges, officials said. Deputy District Attorney Mark Vezzani said Idol attacked the woman, Amber Nevel, on Oct. 11 after Idol and a friend met her and another woman at a West Hollywood restaurant. The women told sheriff's deputies they offered to drive the men to their car after dinner. They said Idol began shouting at Nevel and hit her in the mouth and forehead, Vezzani said. He said large, silver rings Idol was wearing cut the woman's mouth, bruised her and gave her a slight concussion. The women ordered Idol and his friend from the car and reported the incident, Vezzani said. Idol made a conflicting statement to authorities several days later, said Sandi Gibbons, a spokeswoman for the district attorney's office. She declined to elaborate, but did add that Idol admitted having several drinks of beer and liquor.

Bulgaria's embalmed 'royal' heart is fake

SOFIA (R) — A human heart unearthed from a garden and labelled as that of Bulgaria's King Boris is really a fake intended to fool investigators of his mysterious death, the king's godson said. The discovery of a glass jar containing an embalmed heart has touched off a tale of plots and poison gripping post-Communist Bulgaria. "The Communists planted the jar with someone else's heart deliberately to cover up traces of poisoning by (Soviet dictator Josef) Stalin," Boris Godiev told Reuters at the weekend. Boris III, father of Bulgaria's ex-king in exile Simeon Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, died 12 days after his return from a visit to Germany, where he met Adolf Hitler in August 1943. His sudden death and secret burials sparked theories of murder on the orders of either Hitler or Stalin, infuriated by his friendly overtures to Britain during World War II's early stages. A heart, preserved in a glass jar and labelled as that of King Boris, was found by Bulgarian scientists recently in the grounds of his residence near Sofia. The rest of the body is still missing. Scientists examining the heart say it failed because of a massive cardiac arrest — not because his owner had been poisoned.

Japan to approve peace force, but not for Cambodia

TOKYO (R) — Japan is on the verge of approving plans to send peacekeeping troops overseas for the first time, but the likelihood that any will reach Cambodia in the near future is fading rapidly.

Japan has said repeatedly it hoped to play a prominent role in helping the United Nations restore peace to Cambodia, one of the South East Asian countries it occupied during the last war.

Yet over the past few days Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa has unveiled a string of conditions that appear likely to hinder Japan from sending a contingent of troops to help U.N. forces in Cambodia or elsewhere anytime soon.

On Monday, when a special lower house committee opened debate on the government's Peacekeeping Cooperation (PKO) Bill, Mr. Miyazawa said he would not send troops to Cambodia as long as there was a danger of a truce violation.

"Japan's decision to send troops to join the U.N. peacekeeping forces in Cambodia will depend on whether the four Cambodian rival factions abide by the truce accord," Mr. Miyazawa told the committee.

The first U.N. troops arrived in post-civil war Cambodia earlier in November. They are to form the U.N. Transitional Authority of Cambodia (UNTAC) that is expected to disarm combatants, ensure a ceasefire and help organise elections expected to be held in 1993.

On Tuesday, the prime minister said that the United Nations would not have the right of command over any Japanese contingent joining U.N. peacekeeping activities.

Moreover, the decision to fire in self-defence would be left up to each Japanese peacekeeping soldier, regardless of the orders of the U.N.-appointed commander, he told the PKO panel.

"The U.N. secretary-general will not have the right to order Japanese peacekeeping forces (to fire), nor will he be in a position to command them," Mr. Miyazawa said in reply to a question.

By Wednesday, he had promised to heed public opinion before sending troops abroad.

"Japan should not send troops overseas if there is opposition (by the public), regardless of whether we have been asked for PKO assistance on humanitarian grounds in the form of U.N. resolutions," he said.

Mr. Miyazawa's stream of promises has irked some government officials who have spent months drafting the PKO bill.

"I don't see how the United Nations can accept a special set of guidelines for Japan. It is possible that Japan's offer of help will be rejected," said one official involved in drafting the legislation.

Minoru Tanba, head of the Foreign Ministry's Bureau, disagreed. He told parliament this week that Japan has already obtained the "understanding" of the United Nations regarding "limitations it would have to place on its peacekeeping troops."

Mr. Miyazawa should win approval of the PKO bill next month, Foreign Ministry officials have said.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

36 killed in Mexican train crash

TEHUACAN, Mexico (AP) — Rescuers used shovels and cranes to search for victims Wednesday after a runaway freight train burst from the tracks at a busy highway intersection, crushing cars and smashing buildings in this southern town. The midnight discovery of five bodies in the debris raised the death toll in Tuesday's wreck to at least 36, making it one of the worst Mexican railroad tragedies in memory. Hospital officials said at least 41 other people were treated for injuries. Officials were investigating reports that the train's brakes failed, the crew then uncoupled some cars and leapt to safety while the rest of the train — with no one at the controls — sped to more than 50 mph (80 kph) and derailed. Soldiers and federal highway police searched for more victims through the night in this picturesque community known for its bottled mineral water by the same name.

Train plunges off bridge in U.S.

SHEPHERDSVILLE (AP) — A freight train derailed sent 14 cars, including one carrying explosive chemicals, plunging off a railroad bridge Tuesday, prompting the evacuation of about 1,000 people, authorities said. About half of the metal bridge spanning the salt river collapsed. The CSX train's three engines and the first 16 cars of the 89-car train already had passed over the bridge. No injuries were reported. The derailed train appeared to have been caused by a garbage truck that struck part of the bridge moments before the train passed, officials said. The car with explosive chemicals was not burning, cars containing corn syrup and construction material. Firefighters stayed away because of the possibility of explosion. The car contained methylene diphenyl diisocyanate, used to make plastics, officials said.

Looted treasures found on Soviet base

MOSCOW (AP) — Treasures from the famed "amber room" at the Czartarist palace in Russia — stolen by the Nazis at the end of World War II — have been found on a Soviet military base in eastern Germany, a newspaper disclosed. The room was one of the great masterpieces of pre-revolutionary Russian artistry, along with Faberge eggs and the czar's jewels, and consists of large wall panels and other furnishings made from the rare, honey-coloured resin. The decorations were stripped by German soldiers from the walls of a famous chamber in Catherine's Palace at Tsarskoye Selo, a village outside St. Petersburg. In its report, Rabochaya Tribuna, did not identify the military base where it said the treasures were discovered. But it said the entire cache could be worth \$150 million. Also found were several gold icon frames stolen from the Russian city of Novgorod, the newspaper reported. It said Soviet military intelligence learned of the whereabouts of the stolen artifacts months ago, but that documents disclosing the news — whether deliberately or by accident — never reached Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin.

Sri Lankan rebels kill 29 soldiers

COLOMBO (R) — Tamil rebels killed 29 soldiers and a civilian in two separate ambushes in Sri Lanka Wednesday, police and military sources said. They said 20 soldiers and the civilian were killed at Sinhapura in eastern Sri Lanka in an attack by about 300 rebels. The soldiers were attacked while trying to clear a road of rebel mines. Military sources said nine soldiers were killed in an attack on an army unit in the village of Sangapitaya in the north. Several rebels were also believed to have been killed in the battle. Six soldiers were wounded and troops were trying to hunt down the attackers, the sources said.

Bush to visit Japan on Jan. 7

TOKYO (R) — U.S. President George Bush will make an official four-day visit to Japan from Jan. 7 after touring Australia, Singapore and South Korea, Kyodo News Service said Wednesday. Government sources were quoted as saying the decision was taken after Tokyo and Washington finalised arrangements for rescheduling a postponed visit by Mr. Bush. The U.S. president originally planned to start his four-nation Asian tour late this month, but he postponed the trip on Nov. 5 to concentrate on growing domestic political concerns. The decision took Japanese officials by surprise. Newly-elected Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa had hoped a Tokyo summit with Mr. Bush would give his new administration an early foreign policy success. Kyodo said a formal announcement on his trip would be made in Japan and the United States simultaneously Thursday.

Fire breaks out at New York trade centre

NEW YORK (R) — Fire broke out in one of the twin towers of the World Trade Centre — New York City's tallest building at 110 stories — at the end of Tuesday evening's rush hour. A spokesman for the city's fire department said an electrical box on the 94th floor of one World Trade Centre erupted in flames shortly before 6:30 p.m. (2330 GMT). There were no immediate reports of injuries and firefighters evacuated the 93rd, 94th and 95th floors.

French communist leader hospitalised

PARIS (AP) — George Marchais, the hardline leader of France's Communist Party, was admitted to the cardiac unit of a Paris hospital for observation, according to his doctor. Mr. Marchais, 71, whose views made him an anachronism when the ruling Communist parties fell in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, has suffered heart problems for more than a decade. His doctor, Robert Slama, said Mr. Marchais was admitted to Lariboisiere Hospital because he was experiencing irregular heart rhythms. He said Mr. Marchais would remain hospitalised for observation for a few days.

Sihanouk becomes head of state again

PHNOM PENH (AP) — The Phnom Penh government Wednesday named Prince Norodom Sihanouk president of Cambodia, leaving two people in the largely ceremonial post.

The surprise move came less than a week after Prince Sihanouk returned to the Cambodian capital from 13 years in exile to head the Supreme National Council, a reconciliation body composed of the country's four warring factions.

Heng Samrin is currently serving as president, but is reportedly ill with typhoid.

The real powers in Phnom Penh are Premier Hun Sen and Chea Sim, who heads the ruling People's Party of Cambodia.

The foreign minister told reporters that the decision was made without consulting two of the country's four factions — the Khmer Rouge, which earlier announced its electoral support for Prince Sihanouk, and the non-Communist Khmer People's National Liberation Front. KPNLF leader Son Sann is due to arrive in Phnom Penh Thursday.

The announcement was another clear step in cementing the union between Prince Sihanouk, who as council chairman is supposed to remain neutral, and the Phnom Penh government.

"The absolute legal and legitimate position as head of state of Prince Norodom Sihanouk will remain valid from now on until the holding in 1993 of free, fair and equitable presidential elections in Cambodia," a government statement said.

Army 'fired up to 10 minutes' into Timor mourners

DILI, East Timor (R) — East Timor's military commander has admitted that Indonesian troops had fired into a crowd of mourners for up to 10 minutes last week but denied it was excessive.

He also said he would finally allow independent observers to visit those wounded in the shooting.

"No I don't think it was too long a time," Brigadier General Rudolf Warouw told Reuters in an interview, saying that the firing had gone on for five to 10 minutes.

The government has announced a commission to look into the shooting but Gen. Warouw declined to comment on whether any soldiers would face a court martial.

The military says it opened fire into a crowd of 3,500 mourners eight days ago in the former Portuguese colony as the result of a misunderstanding and that it had been provoked.

It says 19 people were killed and 89 wounded.

Witnesses have said the troops opened fire without provocation. Some reports have put the death toll at up to 180 with nearly 300 wounded.

Film of the shooting has been shown in several countries and one diplomat described it as "gruesome and graphic."

Gen. Warouw said observers would be allowed to visit the military hospital, until now barred even to relatives, where the wounded are being treated.

"Observers will not be allowed to talk to them until our interrogations are over because the sight of foreigners could make them start talking about wild

rumours," he said.

The observers would also be shown the 42 people who were arrested after the incident which has provoked an international outcry.

Last week, Indonesian Armed Forces commander Try Sutrisno said the army had had no choice but to fire after warning shots were ignored.

"They continued to be obstinate. In any case, the armed forces cannot be underestimated. Finally, yes, they had to be blasted. Delinquents like these agitators have to be shot and we will shoot them," he was quoted as saying last week by the Jayakarta daily.

"Abri (the army) is determined to wipe out whoever disturbs stability," Gen. Try said.

Gen. Warouw said rumours about the number of dead in the firing, that a secret mass grave had been dug and that there had been subsequent executions were inspired by Fretilin guerrillas to influence international opinion.

Indonesia, whose role over East Timor is not internationally recognised, invaded the territory in 1975 shortly after the Portuguese rulers of three centuries had pulled out.

Gen. Warouw said there were more than 125 guerrillas left but they still exerted some influence especially in Dili, the East Timor capital, where conditions were good for them because of high unemployment and local politics.

Fretilin leader Gusmao, who has eluded the Indonesian army for 16 years, slipped into Dili two months ago to organise public protests during an eventually cancelled visit to territory by a Portu-

guese parliamentary mission, Gen. Warouw said.

"There is a lot of frustration in Dili among the youth. We can only solve the problems with economic progress."

Several political analysts say that economic advance has been over-emphasised while ignoring the huge social cost.

An estimated 200,000 East Timorese have died from war and famine under Indonesian rule.

Gen. Warouw, architect of the army's strategy implemented to woo locals into participation in development projects, insisted his men would continue their conciliatory approach.

Governor Mario Viegas Carascalao has blamed the strategy, called Operation Sympathy, for laying the foundation for events that led to the army opening fire on a crowd of 3,500 people after they had attended a memorial service for a separatist sympathiser killed two weeks earlier.

Local sources said they had received reports in the past two days of people being taken out and shot by troops.

One shooting was in Hera, where the 19 officially said to have been killed on Nov. 12, had been buried.

The other was in Tasitolu where earlier unconfirmed reports said a mass grave had been dug to bury scores of people killed in last week's shooting.

However, diplomats expressed doubt over reports from Sydney earlier this week that up to 80 people had been stripped then executed last Friday.

An official of the International Committee of the Red Cross

(ICRC) said in Dili that conditions laid down by the military for visiting wounded victims of last week's shooting were unacceptable.

"We need to see the injured in the hospital, talk to them without witnesses... I cannot accept half steps. We have made many compromises but not any more," said the official, who asked not be named.

He said he was unhappy with an earlier visit to 42 prisoners arrested after the shooting.

He demanded that the army guarantee the neutrality of his office's compound in Dili.

"We need the guarantee in view of the present situation in Dili, that there should be one place where people need not fear for their lives."

The ICRC is asking for a list of those killed last week.

"It is a very simple humanitarian duty to let the family know, to return the body, to bury according to their religious beliefs," he said.

In Tokyo, an Italian Roman Catholic priest screened a videotape he took two hours after the shooting, showing bloodstains on the ground outside the cemetery.

Father Stefano Renato, from the Nagoya section of the Japanese Catholic Council for Justice and Peace, told a Tokyo news conference an eyewitness told him Indonesian soldiers had washed away pools of blood in front of the cemetery.

"After listening to witnesses, the victims of the massacre could number more than 100 dead," Mr. Renato said.

Handwritten signature or note in Arabic script.